DECEMBER 2022 ₹150
AN RP-SANJIV GOENKA GROUP PUBLICATION

HELLO

THE LUXURY EDIT

FENDI HOME
THE ECO-FRIENDLY
LAVISH MANSION

ATHIYA SHETTY
FASHION'S NEW
FAVOURITE

**SABYASACHI
MUKHERJEE**
CONQUERING
THE WORLD

LUXURY!
CAMERA!
ACTION!

GUEST EDITOR

KARAN JOHAR'S

REAL SUPERPOWER
DECODED

PLUS: INSIDE STORY, BEAUTY, FASHION, GOOD LIVING... AND MUCH MORE!

VISIT…

LANZAROTE
Caliente.com

Ω
OMEGA
CO-AXIAL
MASTER CHRONOMETER
omegawatches.com

OMEGA MASTER CO-AXIAL 8802

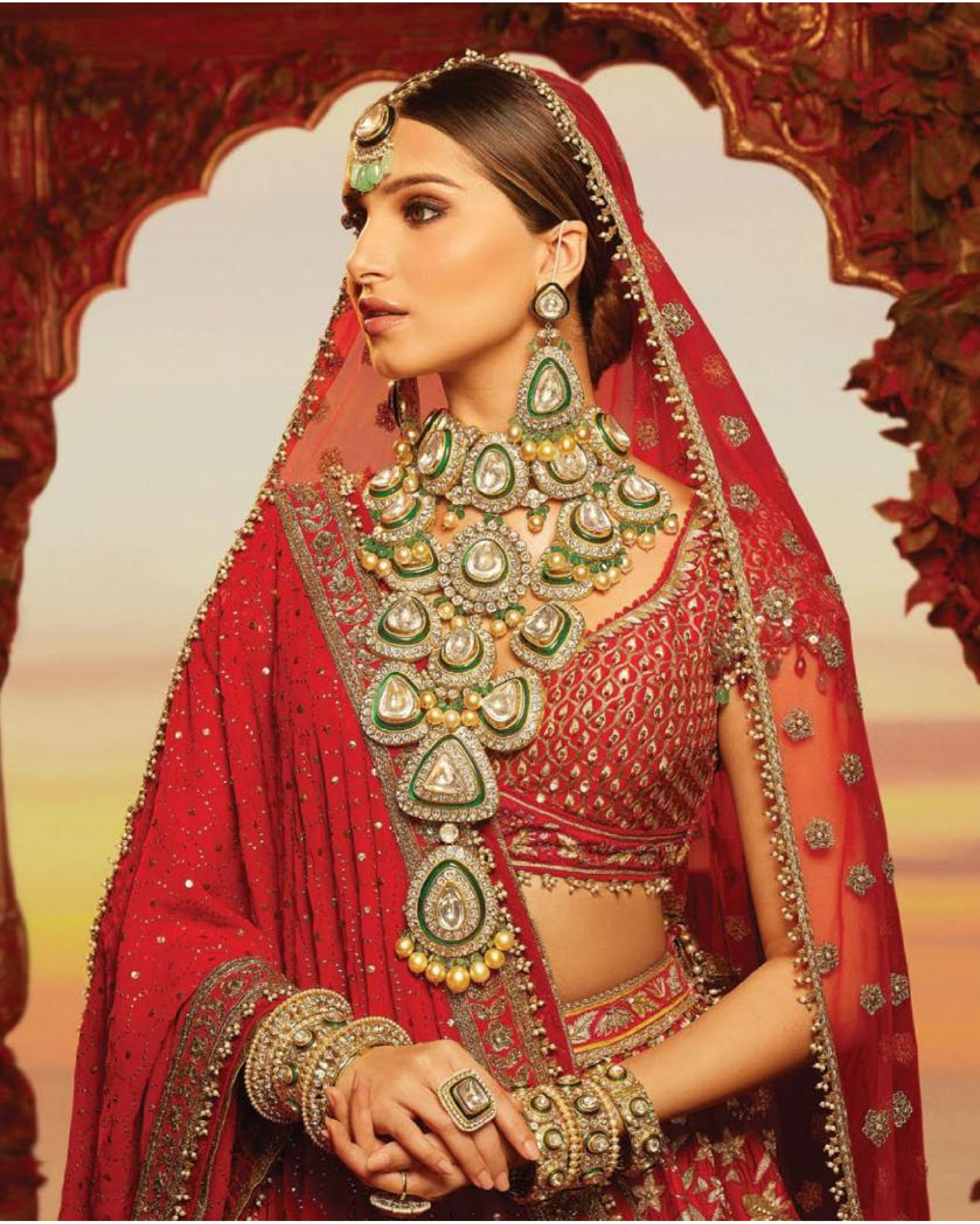
A WORLD OF ENCHANTMENT

Amidst the freshly fallen snow, a glistening OMEGA wonder is revealed. The De Ville Prestige in 18K Sedna™ Gold sits at the heart of our festive dreamscape, where iconic heritage and mechanical precision are seamlessly brought to life. Even in these frozen seconds of time, there is a forward momentum that celebrates OMEGA's endless pursuit of excellence. This Co-Axial Master Chronometer watch, with its dark blue dial and Small Seconds display, is the perfect choice for a magical winter full of beauty and imagination.

Ω
OMEGA

www.omegawatches.com

MANISH MALHOTRA
DIFFUSE



HAZOORILAL™ ©
LEGACY

FINE JEWELLERY SINCE 1952

D-6 South Extension II, New Delhi T: +91 11 48733333
Gold Souk, Sushant Lok Phase I, Gurugram T: +91 124 4115123
www.hazoorilallegacy.com | info@hazoorilallegacy.com | shop.hazoorilallegacy.com
Follow us @hazoorilallegacy

Scan here

76 COVER STORY

KARAN JOHAR

HELLO! gets chatting with the multi-hyphenate about the shadows that hit B-town, why southern films are conquering hearts… and his 'luxe' factor!

16 AU REVOIR, 2022! As we prepare to step foot in 2023, HELLO! lists the headlines that shocked, excited and changed the world this year

20 ILARIA VENTURINI FENDI The Italian fashion designer opens her country home to HELLO!, sharing what it's been like to change lives with her stylishly sustainable designs

30 LUXURY'S MOST INFLUENTIAL Author and fashion journalist Sujata Assomull brings you 15 of the most powerful names in the regal realm of high fashion

34 SABYASACHI MUKHERJEE In an exclusive interview, HELLO! speaks with the man of the moment about taking Indian heritage to the world, steering clear of trends and staying true to his roots

38 PRITI PAUL In conversation with the youngest scion of the Apeejay Surrendra Group at her Indo-Moroccan Delhi home, HELLO! finds out what makes her a global citizen

46 RIDING HIGH HELLO! spends a day with four accomplished women in design, talking about their creative prowess and what makes life a charmed one

58 ANUJA & MAYANK GUPTA This stylish couple knows the art of curating beautiful homes. HELLO! gets a tour of their stylish Gurugram apartment — and a special Christmas treat!

70 POOJA ADVANI The luxurista and fashion lover shares her pearls of wisdom on the seasons go-to trends and more to watch out for

88 LUXURY BRANDS THAT RULE THE WORLD HELLO! lists 20 of the most luxurious brands in India and the world, one accessible only to those with discerning taste — and some seriously deep pockets

96 FARHANA BODI This popular influencer from Dubai embodies all things luxury. She gets candid with HELLO! about her love for high living

102 PARIS HILTON HELLO! caught up with the Hilton heiress during her chock-a-block trip to India, picking her brain on fashion, fragrances and more

104 THE HIGH LIFE Nine fashion-forward and glamorous ladies share their most luxurious escapades and choices of the year with HELLO!

112 ALIZEY & LAILLI MIRZA HELLO! steps into the haute and happening world of the fashion-curious twins from Dubai, who spill the beans on all their extravagant choices

119 PARIS: THE INSIDE VIEW Delna Poonawalla gives HELLO! an exclusive ringside view from Paris Fashion Week

46

58

70

96

134

120 CONSCIOUS LUXURY Today, sustainability is no longer a niche for specialised brands. HELLO! brings to you the luxe labels doing right by the environment

124 TASHEEN RAHIMTOOLA In a light-hearted tête-à-tête, HELLO! gets a lesson on curated luxury experiences from this Mumbai-based entrepreneur

130 CHETAN & RISHI KAJARIA The brothers behind Kajaria Ceramics speak with HELLO! about their unwavering moral compass, having the best mentor in their father and more

134 ATHIYA SHETTY In an intimate chat with HELLO!, the budding actor reveals that there's more to her than just her background in films and athletic physique

142 WHEN BANGKOK BECKONS On a trip to the Thai capital as a special guest for Gucci, Roohi Oomerbhoy Jaikishan took in the sights and sounds of the city

148 FINANCA VIA FASHION From the Hermès Birkin to the Lady Dior, HELLO! brings you the most coveted luxury bags that are exclusive collectible assets

151 STOP, SHOP & SURPRISE Make your loved ones feel all the more special with the ultimate gifting guide — courtesy HELLO!

170 THE BUSINESS OF BEAUTY From Priyanka Chopra and Deepika Padukone, to Jennifer Anniston and Scarlett Johansson, HELLO! brings you some of the biggest celebrity beauty offerings of 2022

174 WINTER GLOW Keep the annoyances of the cold weather at bay, with HELLO!'s curation of beauty products that will help you look and feel your best

REGULARS

15 EDITOR'S LOUNGE
53 INSIDE STORY
133 HAUTE IN HELLO!
176 GOOD LIVING
184 LUXE NEWS
186 DIARY OF THE MONTH
193 NUMEROLOGY
194 LAST WORD

For the latest from the world of luxury and lifestyle, scan the QR code to check out our website and social media pages

HELLO!
THE WORLD'S NO.1 CELEBRITY MAGAZINE

● SPAIN ● UK ● MÉXICO ● AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND ● CANADA ● GREECE ● INDIA ● PAKISTAN ● RUSSIA ● SERBIA ● SOUTH AFRICA ● THAILAND ● TURKEY ● ARGENTINA ● COLOMBIA ● DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ● MOROCCO

Chairperson Editorial Board
Avarna Jain

Editor
Ruchika Mehta
ruchika.mehta@hello-india.co.in

Managing Editor Nayare Ali
Creative Director Avantikka Kilachand
Senior Fashion Editor Amber Tikari
Fashion Editor Sonam Poladia
Copy Chief Shraddha Chowdhury
Special Correspondent Vishwaveer Singh
Senior Features Writer Jeena J Billimoria
Special Correspondent Neeva Jain
Special Correspondent (Entertainment) Puja Talwar
Junior Stylist Anushree Sardesai

Head-Digital Aishwarya Dravid
Senior Features Writer Salva Mubarak
Junior Digital Writer Reisha Shetty
Junior Digital Writer Eesha Kulkarni
Social Media Manager Tanya Verma
Sr. Executive-Social Media Tamanna Sahoo
SEO Manager Avaneesh Kumar

Senior Art Director Suresh Bhandary
Graphic Designer Dattatray Jadhav

Senior Production Manager Xavier Stanley Rosario

Editorial Contributors
Shobhaa De Celebrity columnist & author
Rashmi Uday Singh Culinary expert & author
Roohi Jaikishan Fashion & lifestyle expert

Editorial
HELLO! India, Business Media Private Limited
(Corp Office: Ist Floor, Tower 3A,
DLF Corporate Park, DLF City, Phase III,
Gurugram, Haryana - 122 002
letterstoeditor@hello-india.co.in

Chief Business Development Officer
Karen Wilson
karen.wilson@hello-india.co.in

Head – Brand Solutions (North & East)
Kapil Kapoor
kapil.kapoor@hello-india.co.in

Brand Solutions (North)
Pooja Sharma
pooja.sharma@hello-india.co.in

Brand Solutions (South)
Arun Vasudevan
arun.vasudevan@hello-india.co.in

Brand Solutions (East)
Bijoy Choudhury
bijoy.choudhury@hello-india.co.in

Brand Solutions (West)
Atul Mehta
atul.mehta@hello-india.co.in

Chief Manager - Marketing
Jaymin Dalal
jaymin.dalal@hello-india.co.in

Circulation
Dhanpreet (National Head)
Amol Joshi (West and East)
Ranjeet Kumar Yadav (North)
N Kishore Kumar (South)

Production
Nishant Sharma

Advertising
officeofbusinesshead@hello-india.co.in

Subscriptions
Customer Care, HELLO! India, Business Media Private Limited
1st Floor, Tower 3A, DLF Corporate Park, DLF City, Phase III, Gurugram, Haryana - 122 002
customercare@hello-india.co.in

RP - Sanjiv Goenka Group

Volume 2, Issue 6, DECEMBER 2022 Monthly Published from Gurugram (Haryana) in English. Price: Rs 150 per copy
HELLO is a trademark of HOLA, S.L., Spain under license granted by HOLA, S.L.,Calle Velázquez, 98, 28006 Madrid, Spain
RNI No: DELENG/2021/80708

© All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, in whole or part, in English or other languages prohibited. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage. Hello does not take responsibility for returning unsolicited publication material. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent courts and forums in Delhi/New Delhi only.

Published and printed by Anil Bisht for and on behalf of Business Media Pvt. Ltd. Printed at Kala Jyothi Process Pvt Ltd, Plot No. CFC - 1&2, Survey No. 18, E-City, SEZ, General Industrial Park, Raviryal & Srinagar (Village), Maheswaram (M), Ranga Reddy District, TELANGANA - 501 359
Published at Business Media Pvt. Ltd., 1st Floor, Tower 3A, DLF Corporate Park, DLF City, Phase III, M.G. Road, Gurugram - 122 002. Editor: Ruchika Mehta

AVARNA JAIN
Chairperson Editorial Board

> **“Hello! is the rubric of high life which entices the reader to browse through the magazine's portrayal of a larger than life image, which is an avant-garde expression of luxury, and, within reach.”**

HELLO! yet again brings to you an absolute bumper issue - the annual Luxury issue.

Hello! In India is all about lifestyle, fashion, celebrities, beauty, food and all things luxury. It is an amalgamation and representation of a lifestyle that exudes luxury. While this issue is specifically dedicated to luxury, the rest are also, inherently and tacitly more or less about luxury. Hello! is the rubric of high life which entices the reader to browse through the magazine's portrayal of a larger than life image, which is an avant-garde expression of luxury, and, within reach.

K Jo is the man of the hour. We all know his directorial venture Rocky and Rani Ki Prem Kahani is slated to be THE movie of the year. But that's not what I'm referring to. Karan Johar is the master of luxury; the master at luxury. He is a luxury maverick. And this genius is the guest editor for this issue. Watch out for his smart, knowledgeable and experienced take on luxury via the ‘sticky notes’.

Whether it is a chat with influencer Pooja Advani or with sisters Alizey and Laili Mirza - who understand luxury so well, this issue is resplendent. HELLO! catches up with the stunning Athiya Shetty, and the absolutely astute and creative Sabyasachi, as he embarks on yet another global journey with the launch of his uber luxurious store in New York.

When our print version is all things luxury, how can the digital be left behind. The #HELLOExpertGuides Wedding Edition will feature expert make-up artists, photographers, wedding planners, designers, decorators, as the wedding season is in full swing.

The specially curated and handpicked gifting guides by the experts across different categories like home decor, food, fashion, beauty, and other lifestyle options will be at your disposal. With shoppable links, finding the perfect gifts for your loved ones will be one click away. Ah! The luxury of technology and convenience.

We are collaborating with some of your favourite experts and influencers for Christmas' and New Year's quick guides on Instagram. Le15 Patisseries founder Pooja Dhingra tells us how to make the perfect Christmassy Peppermint Chocolate cupcakes and style influencer Tarini Manchanda shares the three perfect looks that you can use for a year-end party.

As we end the year on a luxurious high, Hello! wishes you a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Be sure that we'll be back with a lot more excitement next year. The Hello! Hall of Fame-South for starters is all set to sweep you off your feet with the glitz, the glamour and the over the top drama! Stay safe, stay healthy, and enjoy this ride through luxury!

To stay updated on everything from the world of fashion, beauty, business, luxury, lifestyle, weddings, culture, society and much more, scan the code!

Follow us on: IN.HELLOMAGAZINE.COM HELLOINDIA @HELLOMAGINDIA HELLOMAGINDIA HELLOINDIA

It is time for my year ender note once again. This is often a very emotional one, as I reflect on the year gone by with some happy and some not so happy moments. As the year comes to an end, we can say that it has been pretty eventful on all fronts 2022- The year of Redemption. As life bounced back to normalcy after a deadlock of the previous two dark years, it will be cherished the most as we all learnt a hard lesson of never taking life for granted. From travel to celebrations to holidays, everything was back with a vengeance. It was like a rebirth on most fronts. Though, on the international front, the Russia- Ukraine war looms large throwing the entire Europe in a deep energy crisis. It is going to be a dark cold Christmas for most, while Putin recklessly and mindlessly goes on attacking Ukraine to satiate some personal unfulfilled vendettas. Let's hope for an end to this madness sometime soon.

On the brighter side, our annual 'Luxury Special' will uplift your senses and spirits, as you turn the pages filled with all things luxe and beautiful. In India, our royals have had a timeless association with luxury, where Cartier flew down to meet the maharajas- their most expensive jewellery piece till date is the one made for the Maharaja of Patiala; Van Cleef and Arpels designed special pieces for the maharanis; the scarves and horse saddles by Hermes; French chandeliers from Osler; customised handbags by Judith Leiber and shoes were specially commissioned to Salvatore Ferragamo. Over the years, as the world opens up, this has changed and now luxury is more accessible to each and every one through online and physical stores all over. The biggest brands of the world have penetrated the most untouchable markets, and are now a MUST HAVE in the wardrobes of the rich and famous.

> **"There couldn't have been a more appropriate cover personality than one of Bollywood's most popular luminaries, Karan Johar. And we have pulled off yet another EXCLUSIVE here by getting him on board as the Guest Editor for this issue, where he brainstormed on the content with the team and shared his thoughts on stories featured here"**

There couldn't have been a more appropriate cover personality than one of Bollywood's most popular luminaries, Karan Johar. And we have pulled off yet another EXCLUSIVE by getting him on board as the Guest Editor for this issue, where he brainstormed on the content with the team and shared his opinions on the shoots and stories featured here. Karan is synonymous with all things grand, opulent and luxe- be it the sets and locations of his movies, or his aspirational lifestyle. Karan lives life KINGSIZE.
Swinging into action on a Sunday, K Jo revealed not only what a speed demon he is when putting his luxe foot forward for the camera, but also how he has always been a reinventor extraordinaire of the visual storytelling that is so intrinsic to entertainment ..be it 75mm cinema or the plasma or the mobile phone screen!
As we discover his penchant for the good things in life, we marvel at his uncanny knowledge about the world of luxury, as he is always styled in some of the world's best brands. Read on as we decode K Jo's not so secret superpowers!

As you immerse yourself in a luxurious experience going through our pages, wishing you all a very Merry Christmas. Enjoy the season! See you next year!

Ruchika

RUCHIKA MEHTA
Editor

Discover Unbridled Luxury At Our Flagship Boutique

Sir H.C. Dinshaw Building, 3rd Floor,
Opp. Horniman Circle Gardens, Fort, Mumbai.

Please call upon us to assist you
022 40028248

THAKORLAL HIRALAL
JEWELLERS OF DISTINCTION SINCE 1912

pranay@thakorlalhiralal.com | www.thakorlalhiralal.com

/thakorlalhiralal | @thakorlalhiralal

> "My philosophy? 'Love me or hate my creations, but don't become indifferent. Because then, my work has truly failed to be relevant!'"

KARAN JOHAR

IN THE 'SWAG' OF ALL THINGS FILM & FASHION

Sometimes, when you're walking the high streets of pop culture and have entered your fifth decade in life, you become a change warrior. Living in the content universe, whenever the ground beneath my feet seemed to crack open, I chose not just to side-step the cracks but feed them with new, path-breaking material. Frankly, I love those disruptions now, even anticipate them, and use them to leverage my imagination, create a vibe and imbue a project with a sensibility and fresh sense of engagement. My philosophy? 'Love me or hate my creations, but don't become indifferent. Because then, my work has truly failed to be relevant!'

When HELLO! approached me to be the Guest Editor of their Luxury Special, I realised that for me, luxury was a language I employed daily in my endeavours. Both cinema and the luxury landscape involve an innate sense of taste and bravado. Both thrive on change. They also involve messages sent out with a deeper conscience and an awareness that both fashion and storytelling via film reaches out to millions of minds.

Most of my friends in the industry know about my addiction to luxury garments and sometimes, my customised buys. But few know how tuned in I've been to the tectonic shifts and the behind-the-scenes stories of these brands. This year, we saw some pretty cataclysmic changes in the world of luxury design. Balenciaga got into murky territory with an absurdly insensitive campaign. We saw the demise of Louis Vuitton's creative director, Virgil Abloh, who brought a high-street sensibility to a classic luxury house. We saw Alessandro Michele exit Gucci — and both me and Ranveer Singh have been virtual Gucci clones (my babies would say 'clowns', but that's a different matter!) wearing his creations. I do believe that when you work as hard as I do, these guilty pleasures become pretty essential. They elevate your feel-good hormones. And if they are non-conformist looks, well, I never had issues being a maximalist!

However, I'm proud to say that HELLO! has always been on point in these special issues. From Sabyasachi's phenomenal international conquests to growing a conscience as we consume luxury goods, to visiting the OTT maximalism of Dubai women, to looking at a host of the world's luxury power people, this issue packs a punch with just the right mix. I, too, enjoyed chatting with the magazine about my journey — both as a purveyor of content and as someone who brought a strong reorientation of TV set design, film costumes and styling (with help from Manish Malhotra, of course). Enjoy listening to me share my timely insights into all things rich in aesthetics, how I plan to leave no fashion legacy behind for my in-house trolls, Yash and Roohi, and do hit me with feedback on my luxe looks in this shoot — the Adidas X Gucci collab is, for me, more than a runway hit; it's a runaway hit!

> "I'm proud to say that HELLO! has always been on point in these special issues, and this one packs a punch with just the right mix"

GUCCI'S GIFT CAMPAIGN USHERS IN THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Gucci Gift's campaign this year draws inspiration from the world of travel and traces the house's founding history and heritage. Conceptualised by outgoing Creative Director Alessandro Michele, the campaign casts a light on the shimmering and joyful spirit of the festive season and captures the characters as they board a fanciful locomotive with an atmosphere that evokes splendour and nostalgia. Features in the shots are Gucci's signature trolleys, duffel bags and cases, presented in tone-on-tone palettes, miniature proportions, precious leathers and with optical motifs.

ROLEX MADE THE DEEPEST DIVE WATCH YOU CAN BUY

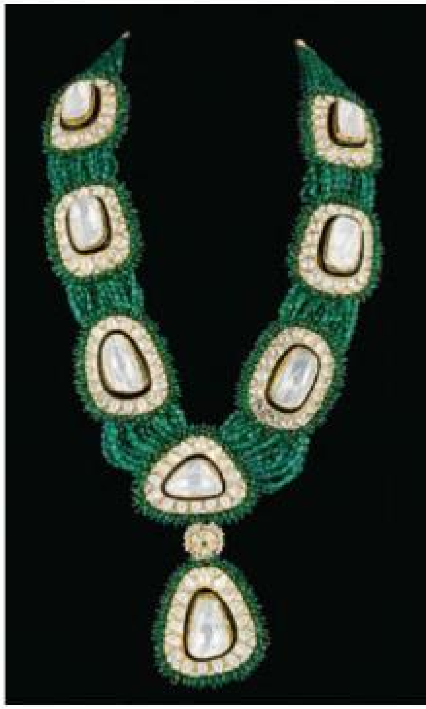
Inspired by the experimental watch that accompanied *Avatar* film-maker James Cameron on his one-of-a-kind deep sea exploration venture in 2012, the Rolex Oyster Perpetual Deepsea Challenge is a timepiece that defies logic. The luxury watchmaker continues its legacy of deepsea dive watches with the new Deepsea Challenge. It's crafted out of what Rolex calls RLX titanium, which makes it the brand's first all-titanium watch, and is rated to an unfathomable 11,000m (36,090ft) of water resistance.

FENDI & PORTER CELEBRATE THE BAGUETTE IN FRESH COLLAB

Unveiled during the Baguette's 25th anniversary show in New York this September, Fendi gave one of its most iconic bags a shiny nylon makeover in collaboration with Porter. Available in a range of attractive colours, the new iterations of the 1998 miniature Baguette fuse together Porter's supreme utility with Fendi's luxurious appeal and creativity. The expertly crafted collection also features co-designed elements from Tiffany & Co, Marc Jacobs and Sarah Jessica Parker for its Resort 2023 runway collection.

THIS NEW MANISH MALHOTRA NECKLACE SPELLS GRANDEUR

The name 'Manish Malhotra' evokes a sense of luxury like no other. And this necklace by Manish Malhotra Jewellery by Raniwala 1881 stays true to this spirit. Adorned with opulent Russian emeralds and sparkling polkis, the neckpiece is encrusted in 18-karat gold. It took a remarkable 320 hours and more to handcraft this magnificent piece of jewellery, which never fails to leave a lasting impression. The necklace is a bewitching juxtaposition of the lustrous, uncut diamonds and the deep, rich emeralds, which together make for a striking contrast and a beautiful fusion of the classic, traditional appeal and contemporary sensibilities. To request for the price and for further enquiries, contact the Manish Malhotra Flagship Store in Delhi, or call 7827690442.



MAISON SHANTNU & NIKHIL HAS A NEW LINE FOR CRICKET ENTHUSIASTS

Label S&N by Shantnu & Nikhil has launched the Shantnu Nikhil Cricket Club collection to celebrate their love for the sport. The designers partnered with cricketing prodigy Shubman Gill to headline the debut campaign. The line features essentials ranging from retro varsity jackets and suave crested sweatshirts to sweater vests, cropped polos and classic pick-me-up accessories. The contemporary range is dedicated to preserving the game's nostalgic yet stylistic hallmarks, made from fabrics like flat knit and premium silks. "SNCC is a culture we are empowering, where cricket is not just looked at as a part of conversations but also celebrated as a form of personal expression," said designer Shantanu Mehra.

AU REVOIR, 2022!

The end of an era, several sports departures, a baby boom and Indians on the world stage — 2022 witnessed it all. As we prepare to step foot in 2023, HELLO! lists the headlines that shocked, excited and changed the world this year

The world upended

RUSSIA INVADES UKRAINE

On February 24, the modern world as we know it changed forever with Russia's invasion of neighbouring Ukraine, sparking a war that's still ravaging the country, forcing millions to flee. Heart-rending images of children taking shelter and once bustling neighbourhoods destroyed and deserted emerged from the invasion, which spurred a wave of economic sanctions, denunciations and other actions from the rest of the world against Russia. Deadly missile strikes and casualties as well as accusations of war crimes by Russian forces continue to be reported till date. President Vladimir Putin shows no signs of backing off, despite repeated appeals from Ukrainian head of state Volodymyr Zelensky and the world.

Indian heritage in NYC

SABYASACHI MAKES A SPLASH IN NEW YORK

New York's West Village is now home to a new Sabyasachi address, quite the milestone in his Kolkata to NYC journey. At his signature retail experience in the fashion capital, Sabyasachi Mukherjee brings Indian craftsmanship and heritage to his international clientele, who can now flock to The Archive building at 160 Christopher Street to take in his brand of slow luxury and Indian decadence first-hand. While his clothes found space in retail spaces like Bergdorf Goodman, Browns and Selfridges in the past, this is the designer's first international store. It's a work of art in itself, with hallways covered from the floor to the ceiling in framed paintings, 16th-century Mughal miniatures, Indian *Pichwais* and vintage photographs, in addition to opulent glass chandeliers, plush hand-knotted carpets, aged mirrors and other trinkets that add to his East-meets-West narrative.

New kids on the block

THERE'S A BABY BOOM IN TINSELTOWN

Congratulations were in order all year round as more and more celebrity couples welcomed babies into the world. Among the new parents are Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt, Sonam Kapoor and Anand Ahuja, Bipasha Basu and Karan Singh Grover, Isha Ambani and Anand Piramal, and Kajal Aggarwal and Gautam Kitchlu. Overseas, we had Priyanka Chopra and Nick Jonas bring home their daughter via surrogacy, and Rebel Wilson going the same route to welcome her child. Jennifer Lawrence, Ashley Graham, Rihanna, Ed Sheeran, Rafael Nadal and Tom Hiddleston, too, shared their happy news with the world. Many other celeb couples had their second child, including Rosie Huntington-Whiteley and Jason Statham, Kylie Jenner and Travis Scott, and Sophie Turner and Joe Jonas. Special mention: actor, comedian and TV host Nick Cannon welcomed his 11th baby this year — with a 12th on the way!

Indians on the world stage

RISHI SUNAK BECOMES PRIME MINISTER OF UK

Though there is much debate around his ancestry, Indians declared Rishi Sunak as one of their own when the news of his prime ministership broke. Sunak became the third Conservative prime minister of Britain this year — and also the first ever non-White individual to hold the top post. The former Chancellor of the Exchequer was born to parents who

migrated from East Africa, though his grandparents belonged to the Punjab province of British India. The former investment banker took over from Liz Truss, who served just 49 days at Downing Street, and now has the daunting task of trying to get the British economy back on the rails while attempting to unite the Tories. Sunak is married to Akshata Murty, daughter of Infosys founder NR Narayana Murthy and philanthropist Sudha Murthy.

The end of an era

QUEEN ELIZABETH II PASSES AWAY

It was, indeed, the end of an era when Queen Elizabeth II, the longest-serving British monarch, passed away aged 96 on September 8, at Balmoral, the royal family's Scottish estate. "I know her loss will be deeply felt by countless people around the world," said her son, King Charles III, whose coronation is slated for May 6, 2023. And mourned she was, as thousands gathered outside Buckingham Palace in London to pay their respects. The UK observed a national mourning period of 10 days, till the queen's state funeral at Westminster Abbey on September 19, when she was interred with her husband Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. Born Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor in Mayfair, in 1926, she reigned for 70 years. Since coming to the throne in 1952, she witnessed 15 prime ministers, enormous social change, the transition from empire to Commonwealth, the end of the Cold War and the UK's entry into — as well as its withdrawal from — the European Union.

Game of notes

ADANI TRUMPS BEZOS IN WORLD'S RICHEST (BRIEFLY)

In today's day and age, lists of the top 10 or best *something* are always in the news — more so when it involves more money than most can fathom. Mid September, Indian billionaire industrialist Gautam Adani was on one such list — the Bloomberg Billionaires Index — in which he slipped past Amazon's Jeff Bezos to bag the second spot. Of late, it's been a neck-and-neck contest among Adani (Asia's richest), Bezos and LVMH's Bernard Arnault for the second position in the index, a daily ranking of the world's richest. Tesla, SpaceX and Twitter CEO Elon Musk continues to hold the top spot. Mukesh Ambani, the only other Indian in the top 10, now ranks nine (when we went to press).

---→

PHOTO: SHIVAM GUPTA PHOTOGRAPHY

The rise of the influencers

SOCIAL MEDIA PERSONALITIES TAKE OVER OUR SCREENS

This year brought the adage "content is king" — or queen — to life, with content creators and social media influencers finding place in every industry one can imagine. Masoom Minawala Mehta walked the ramp at Milan for Vaishali Shadangule, became the face of Estée Lauder and played showstopper for Varun Bahl and Gauri & Nainika at Lakmé Fashion Week. Sakshi Sindwani and Juhi Godambe also took to the runway for high-end designers. Prajakta Kohli went from being a YouTube star to starring in a Dharma production, *Jugjugg Jeeyo*, and *Mismatched*, one of Netflix's most popular shows in India. Comedian Kusha Kapila starred in a number of movies and shows, including season 2 of *Masaba Masaba*, and Myntra Fashion Superstar, where she was accompanied by Ankush Bahuguna, who also recently got his own YouTube show with his alter ego, Wing It With Ankush with Lakmé. All in all, brands have realised the potential of roping in social media personalities that suit their message, be it for product launches or witty campaigns, and are vying for the attention of the legion of fans and followers they command.

Legends bid adieu

SPORTING GIANTS ANNOUNCE RETIREMENT

It was a heart-breaking year for sports fans the world over, with many a top player announcing their departure. In tennis, we had two of the greatest singles players, Roger Federer and Serena Williams, break the news of their retirement from professional tennis. Ashleigh Barty, Jo Wilfried Tsonga and Juan Martin Del Potro also bid adieu. In cricket, Indian women's team skipper Mithali Raj and Jhulan Goswami announced their exit, while on the men's front, Robin Uthappa and Suresh Raina retired from all forms of the sport. Four-time Formula 1 champion Sebastian Vettel also set his fans up for heartache, when he said this season's race in Abu Dhabi would be his last.

The blue bird saga

ELON MUSK TAKES OVER TWITTER

After months of legal wrangling, Elon Musk took over Twitter in a $44 billion deal. "The bird is freed," Musk tweeted, announcing the news in his typical eccentric fashion. While there was much speculation about Twitter's performance and future direction even before the deal was sealed, to say that the social media platform has been plunged into turmoil since then would be an understatement. The takeover followed thousands of layoffs at Twitter's offices worldwide, starting from CEO Parag Agrawal — in addition to Musk firing any employees who voiced their dissent on Twitter. Twitter's offices also abruptly shut down after hundreds of employees resigned and refused to continue to work under Musk's new vision, with #RIPTwitter trending on the platform.

TEXT: SHRADDHA CHOWDHURY

AN RP-SANJIV GOENKA GROUP PUBLICATION

HELLO!

HELLO!
THE LUXURY EDIT
FENDI HOME
THE ECO-FRIENDLY LAVISH MANSION
ATHIYA SHETTY
FASHION'S NEW FAVOURITE
SABYASACHI MUKHERJEE
CONQUERING THE WORLD
LUXURY! CAMERA! ACTION!
GUEST EDITOR
KARAN JOHAR'S
REAL SUPERPOWER DECODED
PLUS: INSIDE STORY, BEAUTY, FASHION, GOOD LIVING... AND MUCH MORE!

SAY HELLO! TO YOUR FAVOURITE CELEBS AT YOUR DOORSTEP MONTH AFTER MONTH.

HELLO! SUBSCRIPTION FORM

TO ORDER **EMAIL:** subscriptions@hello-india.co.in **CALL:** 0124-4561900

Tick	Term	No of Issues	Cover Price (₹)	You Pay (₹)	Discount (%)
☐	3 Year	36	5400	3510	35% Best Buy!
☐	2 Year	24	3600	2880	20%
☐	1 Year	12	1800	1530	15%

HELLO! DECEMBER 2022

TO SUBSCRIBE

Paytm Accepted Here

Scan & Pay using Paytm App

Name (Mr./Ms./Mrs.): ______________________ Designation: ______________________

Occupation: ______________________ Industry Type: ______________________

Address: ______________________

City: ______________ State: ______________ Pin (Mandatory): ______________

Mobile No.: ______________ Landline No.: ______________ Email ID: ______________

Cheque No./Draft No.: ______________ Date: ______________ Amount: ______________

PAYMENT DETAILS Mail the subscription form with your cheque/DD to **Business Media Private Limited**,
First Floor, Tower 3 A, DLF Corporate Park, DLF City, Gurugram, Haryana-122002

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

HELLO! publishes 12 issues in a year ● **HELLO!** may publish occasional extra special issues ● The cover price of the magazine is ₹ 150 ● Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing your subscription ● **HELLO!** subscription offer is a limited period offer and subject to change ● All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent courts & forums in Delhi/New Delhi only.

HELLO! is a registered trademark of HOLA! licensed to Business Media Private Limited

In 2003, Ilaria Venturini Fendi dropped out of fashion's fast lane to set herself up as an organic sheep farmer just north of Rome. But the change of pace didn't stifle her creative energy. In 2006, the eco-conscious designer returned to her roots, creating sustainable red-carpet-ready accessories from recycled materials through her new venture, Carmina Campus, based here on her estate — a former tobacco plantation set in the rolling countryside. The main house is surrounded by centennial pines and cedar trees (above) and her design studio is housed in one of the old farm buildings

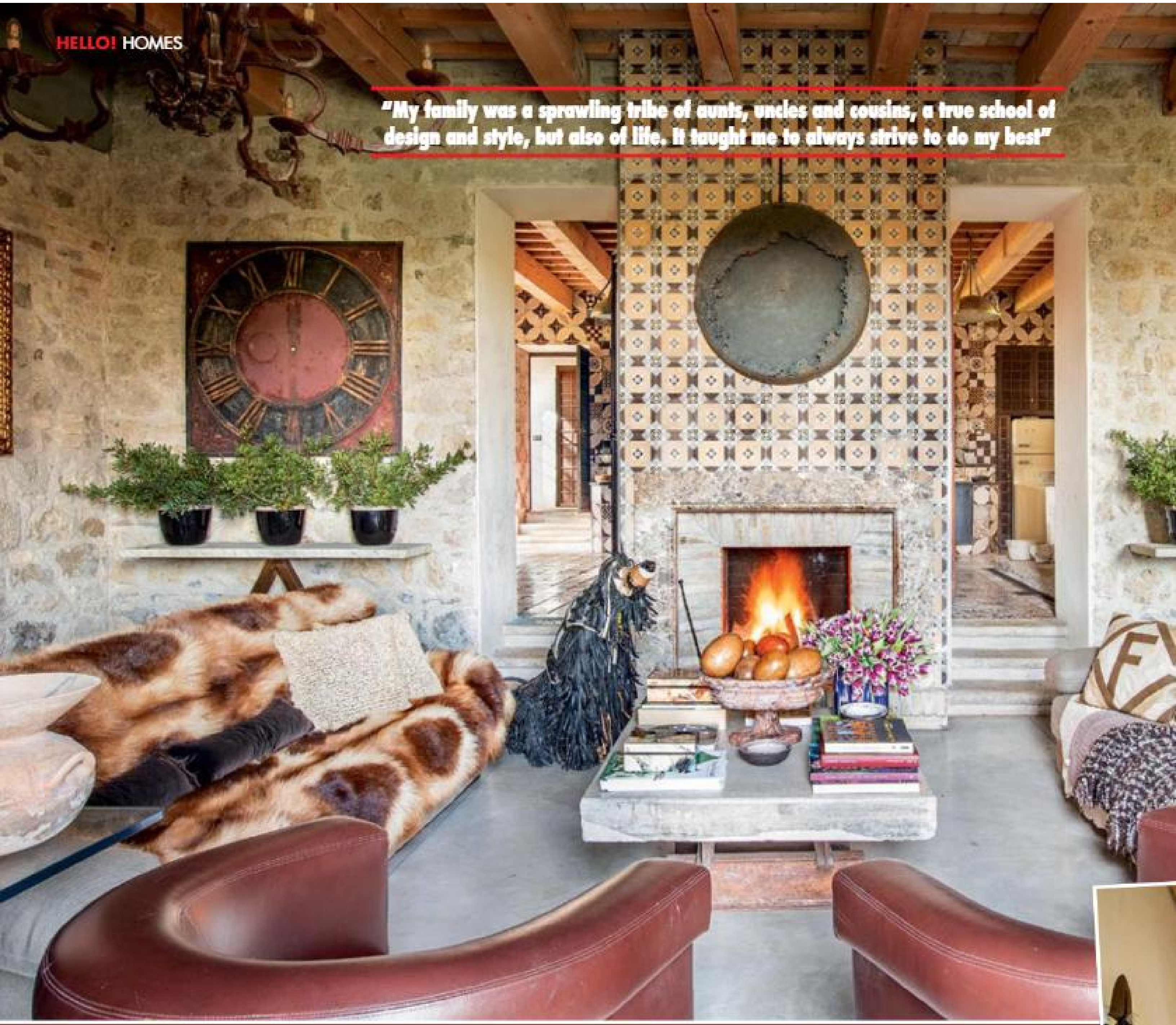
BLISSFULLY BASED AT HER ORGANIC ESTATE OUTSIDE ROME,

ILARIA VENTURINI FENDI

IS MAKING A NAME FOR HERSELF AND CHANGING LIVES WITH HER CHIC ECO-FRIENDLY FASHION AND STYLISHLY SUSTAINABLE DESIGNS

"My children were small and they needed more of my time. And my commitment to nature was growing stronger. So in 2003, I decided to radically change course and embark on the greatest challenge of my life: to become an agricultural entrepreneur"

> **"My family was a sprawling tribe of aunts, uncles and cousins, a true school of design and style, but also of life. It taught me to always strive to do my best"**



Fendi: the mere mention of the name conjures up images redolent of indulgence, luxury and style. A post-war powerhouse in iconic design, exquisite craftsmanship and technical innovation, the world-famous fashion brand started life as a single boutique before going global, thanks to the vision and flair of five hard-working sisters. Third-generation scion Ilaria Venturini Fendi is fiercely proud of her name and legacy, and her "sprawling tribe of aunts, uncles and cousins", she tells us, but after working in the family business, overseeing shoes and accessories as a new mum, she soon realised that doing nothing in the face of climate change was the one luxury none of us could afford.

So in 2003, at the height of her career, she radically changed course, bought a rundown farm in the Parco di Veio just north of Rome and set

Ilaria's painstaking restoration has paid off. Today, what was once a rundown farmhouse is the very picture of rustic sophistication (above left). She's been helped by her talented mum, Anna Fendi, who she reveals designed the console tables and armchairs, sourced the antique clock face and had another one made. Ilaria tells us she loves mixing and matching styles and eras, and the main sitting room is a masterclass in just that: the wrought-iron chandelier, pine beams and rough stone are softened by luxurious fur throws and 17th-century landscapes (far left). There's an industrial twist, as well, to this rural idyll, with polished cement floors. The use of steel, iron and raw concrete and an old metal skillet above the fireplace lends the place a sculptural feel. Meanwhile, old tyres have been turned into a fireside dog by artist Serge Van De Put, and old pitchforks and shovels have been whimsically repurposed as sconces — just one example of Ilaria's mission to show the design world that style and sustainability can go hand-in-hand. The walls also boast quirky metal and wicker trophies, which gaze down on an old work bench (left)

herself up as an organic sheep farmer.

"It was the greatest challenge of my life," she tells us at Casali del Pino, her country estate set in 174 delightful hectares of rolling Italian countryside.

A former tobacco plantation, it's been lovingly restored by Ilaria with the help of her talented mother, Anna. And it's here that she eventually decided to get back in the fashion business — but this time, on her own terms.

"I loved organic farming, but I missed the creative work," she confesses.

Conscious of her carbon footprint, Ilaria was determined that if she were to return to fashion, it would be ethical fashion. In 2006, she set up Campus Carmina, which sees her recycling and upcycling fabric swatches, cut-offs, remnants and scraps of material, and sharing her skills and know-how with women in Africa, prisoners in Italy, and creating job opportunities for future independent micro-entrepreneurs.

The results are astonishing one-of-a-kind chic carryalls, totes and shoulder bags, in a range of bold colours, from rusty reds to acid greens, made of materials such as quilted velvet sofa fabrics.

And eco-fashion fans can quench their thirst for accessories with quirky eco-friendly earrings and necklaces made from drinks cans, can pull tabs and plastic bottlenecks. She has a fantastically eclectic

> "You can see my mother's flair at work everywhere here. There's no stopping her. She's creative and forever coming up with new projects. For her, her work and her life are the same"

It was Ilaria's mother Anna, her four sisters and their grandmother Adele who made Fendi the iconic fashion brand it is today. Ilaria initially followed her mum and aunts into the business, after interning under Karl Lagerfeld at Chanel. Anna and Ilaria are pictured here with Ilaria's daughter Nina Pons Fendi (above). The kitchen is spectacular, with its enormous copper hood and bold patchwork of vintage Neapolitan majolica tiles, gleaned from Anna's collection (right). The chapel was expertly restored and is now a calming, meditative space (below right)

interiors collection, too. Nothing goes to waste when it comes to carefully creating cutting-edge furniture pieces from unusual materials. Tables are made from old clocks, car headlights are repurposed as wall lamps, and road signs are transformed into benches.

Whether fashion or furniture, every item is unique and handmade by some of Italy's finest artisans, each an example of how style and sustainability can go hand-in-hand.

"I am worried about the future that awaits my children… But I'm not a pessimist," Ilaria says, as she tells us of her fascinating journey, the rich tapestry of her family's past and how we can all make things better for future generations.

Ilaria, what does it mean to be a Fendi? I'm very proud of my surname. It became an international brand thanks to my mother, Anna, and her four sisters and my grandmother Adele. Their ingenuity, style and perseverance transformed a boutique for upper-class Roman ladies into a major fashion company. But, truth be told, as a little girl, I didn't harbour any dreams of becoming a designer myself. I loved spending time outdoors. My father was a businessman with a passion for country life, and I used to follow him everywhere on his long walks through the woods on his estate. I also got my passion for horses from him. I had an Andalusian stallion who lived to the age of 32. He was really important in my life.

I only really became interested in fashion after the death of my father, when I was 10 years old. From that moment on, I started to breathe the air of my mother's atelier. She was creative director of Fendi accessories, and her work fascinated me. I realised what a privilege it was to be part of this family. It was a sprawling tribe of aunts, uncles and cousins that, by then, had already become a brand. It was a true school of design and style, but also of life: it taught me to always strive to do my best. I learned the beauty of being part of a team, and the value of hard work. So I felt encouraged to follow in my mother's footsteps.

Tell us a little about your subsequent career in the world of fashion? I attended the European Institute of Design and then interned for two years at Chanel under Karl Lagerfeld. After that, I joined the family business, where I became creative director of accessories for Fendissime, the brand's younger line, and designer for Fendi Shoes. I was passionate about both jobs and I stayed on even after the sale of the brand to a French group.

How would you describe your personal style? I love going into the archives. I love avant-garde fashion and skilled craftsmanship. My personal style is inseparable from my great passion for nature and sustainable fashion. One of my proudest achievements is having launched my own brand of accessories and furniture, called Carmina Campus, back in 2006. So I'm comfortable in jeans and boots, vintage pieces, or clothes I make myself. I also love customising pieces, like the bags I create with recycled materials.

When it comes to decorating a space, I like mixing eras and styles, and juxtaposing valuable objects with pieces I make out of recycled materials. When I worked for the family business, I'd first come up with ideas and then look for materials. Today, I do the exact opposite: the materials that I find tell me what they want to become.

What's your outlook on life? It's essential to have a purpose. These days, my outlook is conditioned by the uncertainty caused by the pandemic and by the fate of our planet. I'm worried about the future that awaits my children and all future generations. I'm not a pessimist. I'm an informed optimist, and I'm increasingly active as an environmentalist.

Can you tell us about the initiative stopglobalwarming.eu? Faced with ongoing climate change, I felt like I had to do something concrete. So I became a huge supporter of stopglobalwarming.eu, a European campaign launched in Italy by activist Marco Cappato. This is a European citizens' initiative, with one urgent goal: to petition the European Commission to increase tax on CO2 emissions, accompanied

by a reduction in taxation on lower incomes. The deadline for collecting the required number of signatures — one million in at least seven EU countries — is April 22, so I'm urging people to join the appeal at stopglobalwarming.eu.

What have been your greatest successes and challenges in life? My mother taught me that success in life comes from hard work. In my family, we tend to set ourselves very ambitious goals, which require enormous commitment. This is reflected in my years as a creative director at Fendi. I remember it as a fantastically rewarding time. But it was also very demanding. The collections came hot on the heels of one another at a furious pace, and no sooner had I finished one collection than it was suddenly so last season and I had to start all over again. I could hardly keep up! Meanwhile, my children were young and needed more of my time. And my commitment to nature was growing stronger. So in 2003, I decided to radically change course and embark on the greatest challenge of my life: to become an agricultural entrepreneur.

So at what point did Casali del Pino come into your life? Casali del Pino was key to my change of lifestyle. I had been looking for a patch of land for the weekends, somewhere to keep my horse. And then I came across this large

> **"Success in life comes from hard work. In my family we tend to set ourselves very high goals, which require enormous commitment"**

174-hectare estate north of Rome. It was love at first sight. It seemed a little neglected, as though it were waiting for my attention. As it was a much larger property than I had been looking for, I reasoned that it couldn't just be a weekend home. So the lifestyle change that had been in the back of my mind all this time suddenly became much easier and almost natural for me. It was the beginning of a completely different path.

And it was here that you began your eco-sustainable mission… I immediately took a course on becoming an agricultural entrepreneur, and then I started changing over the land to organic farming, which took three years. While I was waiting for the land to regenerate, I also regenerated myself. I realised that if I were to do anything, it had to be sustainable. That's how my small sustainable fashion and design brand, Carmina Campus, came about in 2006. I loved organic farming, but I missed the creative work. In fact, I was still designing personalised bags, which I had made by artisans with whom I had worked over the years.

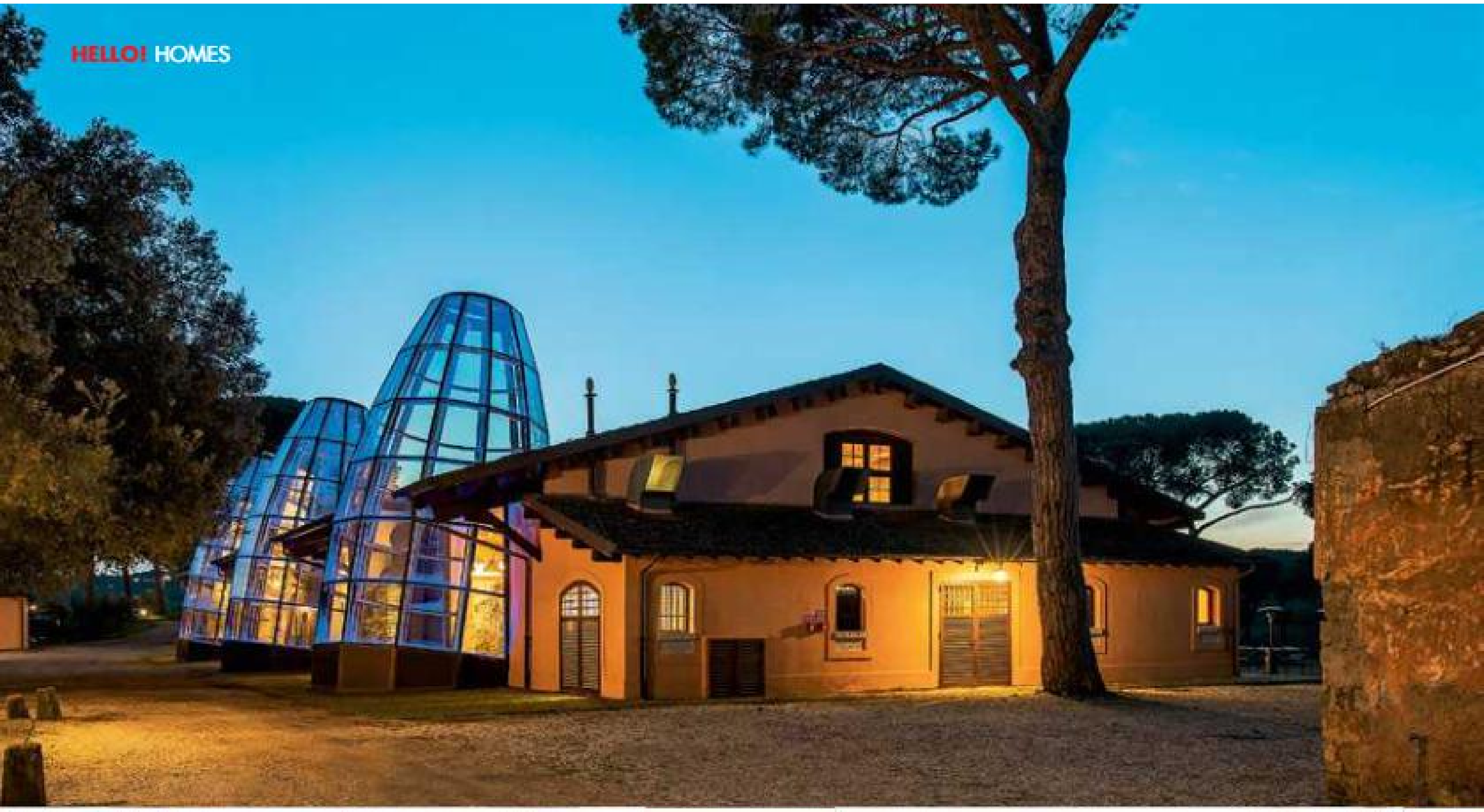
When I came across some bags from an NGO that was involved in campaigns against female genital mutilation, I thought about customising them by adding scraps of leather, bits of fabric, and other materials that I had, making each one unique. Then I sold them to boutiques and was able to make a contribution to the NGO to help with its campaign. What started out as a one-off gesture then became the project Carmina Campus, which seeks to reuse and recycle unused remnants or cut-offs to make bags, accessories or pieces of furniture. The next logical step was to set up my design studio in one of the farm buildings, allowing me to switch from one role to another just by walking through a door.

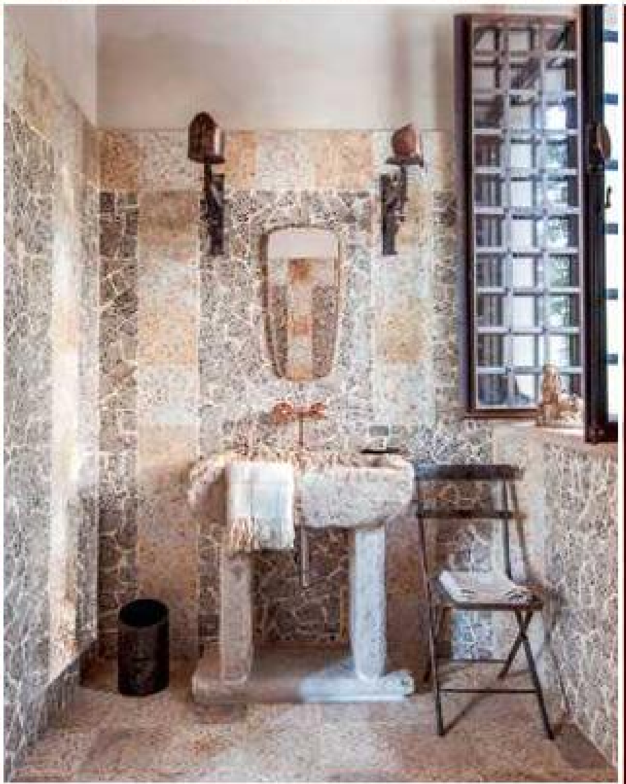
What sort of projects have you been involved in? Carmina Campus was involved, from the very outset, in projects in the area of women's rights. In 2007, I launched a project for a group of disadvantaged women in Cameroon. It caught the attention of the United Nations and I accepted an invitation from the UN International Trade Centre (ITC) to transfer the project over to its centre in Kenya. I was in charge of the design of a special line of bags made with locally sourced materials and produced at the ITC centres by a group that I trained with the help of some of my Italian artisans whom I brought over. I'm proud to say that subsequent reports have shown that many women have managed to radically change their living conditions and those of their children thanks to the work and know-how passed on to them by this initiative.

Later, I adapted this same philosophy to the initiative Socially MadeInItaly, which teaches new skills to prisoners. I created a line of bags produced entirely in Italian prisons. Initially,

The master bedroom (above left) boasts a cosy fur throw, also by Anna Fendi, stripped pine furniture and a striking clock face. Meanwhile, Ilaria teamed up some vintage sunglasses and flower pots for a groovy look. Her daughters' bedroom features 19th-century painted and brass-trimmed iron bedsteads, while a wrought-iron floral chandelier was reimagined as a bedside lamp (far left). Extravagant floral displays bring life and colour to the patio table, which is covered in a hand-crocheted tablecloth appliquéd with cut-out chintz roses. The glassware is Murano (above and left)

→





The solar chimneys are a stand-out contemporary feature and help keep the house warm in winter and cool in summer (above). The bathroom is lit by wrought-iron sconces and enlivened by a terrazzo floor, recycled marble fragments and a reclaimed limestone trough (right). Ilaria's dairy sheep graze peacefully in the grounds of the estate (far right)

four prisons were involved, and this eventually grew to 11. In a prison in Catania, I worked with a group of inmates to make felt from a range of different materials.

Have you been honoured with any awards? Though Carmina Campus is a niche brand, it has won quite a few awards for innovation and its social commitment. I was thrilled to be given the Social Laureate Award during the the first edition of the Green Carpet Fashion Awards, organised in Milan by the Camera della Moda in 2017. And I was honoured with the ADI Social Design Award for the Made in Prison project. The mayor of Dallas also presented me with the Excellence in Ethical Business Award, and in Seoul, I picked up the World Fashion Grand Prize for Ethical Fashion Design, created by the Fashion 4 Development programme. In my own way, I've been able to get my message across to international audiences.

Do you know much about the history of the farm? This was ancient Etruscan territory, and there are lots of archaeological sites scattered around here. While we've got almost a thousand organic dairy sheep here on the estate now, it used

> **"The buildings had fallen into ruin, and I immediately started planning their restoration. I was mindful that the work be as sustainable as possible and that every building be energy efficient"**

to be a tobacco plantation. The workers lived in a kind of small town, with its own primary school and a small church, as well as stables and drying sheds. When I bought the estate, these buildings had fallen into ruin, and I immediately started planning their restoration. The whole process took several years, and I was mindful that the work be as sustainable as possible, and that every building be energy efficient. There are three solar chimneys — the only contemporary twist allowed in the restorations — that regulate the temperature inside, functioning as greenhouses in winter and cooling the air in summer with a system of fans. The milk-processing laboratory was created in another old barn. That's where we produce our fresh and cured cheeses and sell our other organic products.

The tiles are quite a feature here... You can see my mother's flair at work everywhere, especially on the floors, walls and in the bathrooms. She has a royal collection of old Neapolitan tiles, and she finds original ways to reuse them in a range of different rooms. There's no stopping her. She's creative and forever coming up with new projects. For her, her work and her life are the same. Anyway, while we were able to restore some old buildings like the church, which had no roof, we had to make the kitchen from scratch. We used Neapolitan majolica tiles from the early 20th century, in a mixture of burgundy, brown and beige tones.

Is the living room the handiwork of your mother, as well? My mother made the simple console tables with the stone tops and iron bases you can see up against the walls that are dominated by two huge clock faces. One of the clocks is from a bell tower; my mother got it from an antiques dealer. But she has always liked things in pairs, so she had her craftsmen make a copy with recycled iron. I got my passion for clocks and watches from her. I've turned some clocks into chairs and stools, and I've repurposed wrist watches to make collections of necklaces, earrings and bracelets. My mother also designed the two armchairs, and we've hung a reclaimed metal skillet above the fireplace, as though it were a piece of contemporary sculpture.

PRODUCTION & TEXT: NANÁ BOTTAZZI
HOUSE PHOTOS: GIORGIO BARONI
POSED PHOTOS: MATTIA BETTINELLI
(STOPGLOBALWARMING.EU)

CLOTHES AND ACCESSORIES: FENDI. FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS: FABRIZIO COCCHI. HAIR AND MAKEUP : GIOVANNI BELLI@SIMONEBELLIAGENCY

LUXURY'S MOST INFLUENTIAL

SUJATA ASSOMULL
AUTHOR & FASHION JOURNALIST

Businessmen, stylists, editors, influencers, celebrities and creators — each of them is a vital cog in the luxury machinery. With India being one of the world's fastest growing luxury markets, today, names from the country play an influential role in the trade. Digging deep into this industry, Sujata Assomull brings you 15 of the most powerful names in the regal realm of high fashion for HELLO!

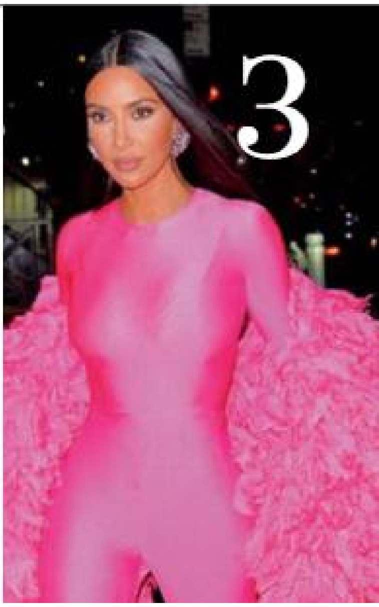
1

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

BELLA HADID ▶
The supermodel with an Arab lineage has been at the forefront of conversations on diversity in fashion. Bella Hadid walked in over 35 ramp shows this year, including at Paris Fashion Week for Coperni, where the French label spray-painted a dress on her. It became one of fashion's most viewed videos on the internet — not to mention one of its most defining moments. Off the ramp, whatever Bella wears becomes a sellout, be it Ugg boots or the Prada Re-Nylon bag. The model was named 'Power Dresser of the Year' in Lyst's Year in Fashion 2022 Round-Up. She can also be credited for ensuring that the 'weird girl aesthetic' was one of the biggest TikTok trends of the year.

2

BERNARD ARNAULT ▲
He's the man behind the mammoth LVMH group, the world's largest luxury conglomerate that owns some of the industry's most influential names, including Louis Vuitton, Christian Dior and Sephora. Last year, Bernard Arnault bought over Tiffany & Co. and is now working on the first Louis Vuitton Hotel in Paris. With all five of the billionaire's children now working within the group, this is a company whose succession plan is firmly in place. For a while in 2021, he was also the world's richest man, trumping both Jeff Bezos and Elon Musk. An early investor in Netflix, there's no question that Arnault is a businessman who has a pulse on the industry. His company can make or break the career of creators and recently bought stake in American streetwear brand Aimé Leon Dore.



3

KIM KARDASHIAN ▼
Love her or hate her, Kim Kardashian matters to fashion. From her Marilyn Monroe moment at the Met Gala to her refusing to be a part of Balenciaga's next campaign after the brand released a distasteful, bondage-themed holiday campaign featuring children, fashion pays heed to her voice. It was only after Kim spoke out, saying she was reevaluating her relationship with the luxury house, that Balenciaga made an official statement of apology. There are few in the world who have eyes on them like her — from what she wears and what she says, to what she eats, this influencer's star status does not fade, even when she finds herself in the middle of controversies.

4

SABYASACHI MUKHERJEE ▶
On the path to being India's first global luxury label, Sabyasachi Mukherjee, who received corporate funding from the Aditya Birla Group last year, opened his luxurious store in New York's West Village just a few weeks ago — a shining milestone in his Kolkata to stateside story. He's been setting the style agenda in India for well over 10 years now and has redefined how the Indian bride dresses. A designer who has collaborated with Christian Louboutin and H&M and had his work retail at places like Bergdorf Goodman, Sabyasachi was the first Indian couturier to create flagship stores that were worth visiting for the interiors alone. He was also the first homegrown designer to create 'it bags' and break into the fine jewellery market in India, Dubai and New York.

5

LAW ROACH ▶
The most powerful ramp in the world is the red carpet, and Law Roach is Hollywood's most in-demand stylist, with a client list that includes the likes of Zendaya, Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Venus Williams. Credited with the reinvention of Celine Dion, he calls himself an 'Image Architect'. This year, the Council of Fashion Designers of America debuted the Stylist of the Year Award, with Roach becoming its first winner. *Hollywood Reporter*, too, named him 'Stylist of the Year' for the second year in a row. A celebrity in his own right and having appeared on several television shows, Roach is at the top of the styling game.

6

ZENDAYA ▶
The *Euphoria* actor, fondly known as Queen Z, is a true cultural phenomenon. The 26-year-old has yet to make a wrong move on the red carpet, and no style list is complete without mention of her. The youngest two-time acting winner of an Emmy, Zendaya has shattered many a ceiling, and she loves to make a bold statement on the red carpet. Among her top looks of 2022 was when she wore a slip dress with a spider-web detailing and a hip-high slit by Maison Valentino for the premiere of *Spider-Man: No Way Home*.

7

YVON CHOUINARD ◀
Fashion loves to talk about how products can be kind to both people and the planet, but no one has proved this more possible than Patagonia founder Yvon Chouinard. He established the company, which retails outdoor wear, in 1973, nearly 50 years ago, as a mountain climber and activist who believes that profit and purpose work in harmony. Since 1985, Chouinard's business has donated 1 percent of sales to the preservation and restoration of the environment and awarded over $150 million to environmental groups. With sustainability an integral part of the company ethos, Patagonia is a certified BCorp firm. This year, Chouinard made the bold move of donating all of his stock in the company to a trust and a nonprofit that's dedicated to fighting environmental crises. He said, "The earth is now our only shareholder," as profits from the company he founded would be diverted to fighting climate change hereon.

PHOTO: **GETTY IMAGES**

8

RAF SIMONS ◄

Just a few weeks ago, the Belgian designer announced he was shutting shop on his eponymous label after 27 years. A minimalist who became known as a voice for youth culture with his brand, Raf Simons and his label will be missed. He will continue as co-creative director of Prada, alongside Miuccia Prada. He has previously helmed Jil Sander and Christian Dior, where he was vocal about the pressure on creative directors to produce collection after collection. Since 2020, his work at Prada infused new energy into the Italian brand. In fact, it appears as though the designer found his calling at Prada and can now concentrate all his efforts into his work there. So the closure of Raf Simons could signal a new start for the 54-year-old designer.

9

ALESSANDRO MICHELE ◄

News of his exit from Gucci a few weeks ago shocked the fashion world. Alessandro Michele was appointed at a time when the luxury house had lost its gloss. But under the designer, revenues grew from €3.9 billion in 2015 — the year Michele took over as creative director — to €9.7 billion in 2021. He brought critical acclaim to Gucci, making it the brand that set the style agenda. A magpie at heart, Michele loves logos, vintage style and bold colours. He also brought to the fore conversations on identity with a gender-fluid approach to fashion. In his exit statement, the designer said, "There are times when paths part ways because of the different perspectives each one of us may have." Hopefully, like previous Gucci creative director Tom Ford, Michele will start his own label. And there's no question that fashion is watching his next move closely.

10

MARIA GRAZIA CHIURI ►

The first female artistic director of Christian Dior, Maria Grazia Chiuri has made being a feminist in fashion acceptable. It's been six years since she took over the reins of this luxury fashion house, and since then, she's made it modern, yet stayed true to the codes that Christian Dior laid down when he founded the house in 1946. With regard to India, Chiuri has spoken up about the country's crafts heritage, a legacy that few European creative directors acknowledge despite depending on our textile heritage. She believes it's important to highlight Indian excellence and has spoken about it in several interviews. In fact, it took Dior Couture's Spring/Summer 2022 presentation to highlight for a wider audience the Indian contribution to European couture houses. For the show, Chiuri commissioned a mammoth 3,600sqft tapestry backdrop based on the work of two Indian artists, Madhvi and Manu Parekh with which Chiuri has shared a long relationship. The tapestry was kept on display for a week after the couture presentation.

11

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

IMRAN AMED ▲

Born and raised in Canada and with Indian roots, Imran Amed has become the first and last word in fashion. In 2007, the former McKinsey & Company management consultant launched Business of Fashion (BoF), a platform that both respects creativity and understands that commerce is what drives the multi-billion-dollar industry. From a blog that began from Amed's couch in London, BoF has turned into the industry's guiding light. It's the website everyone in fashion wakes up to, as it has a pulse on the market. Taking into consideration BoF's 2.5 million Instagram followers, podcasts, collaborative partnership with *Financial Times* and the BoF 500 Power List — not to mention its high-profile on-ground events — if you are in fashion, you want to be on Amed's radar.

PIERPAOLO PICCIOLI ▼
The creative director of Valentino fashioned his own Pantone shade this year — the iconic Pink PP. Valentino's Fall 2022 collection has 48 looks in this vibrant colour, a shade that worked well with the Barbiecore trend that was dominating the industry and caught everyone's attention. Soon, every fast-fashion company was making this pink the colour of the season. And whether it was Anne Hathaway or Glenn Close, a tribe of celebrities was spotted in pieces from this memorable Valentino edit by Pierpaolo Piccioli. A social media-friendly colour that defined fashion in 2022, Piccioli knows fashion inside out, which makes him a creative director to watch out for.

12

SIMON PORTE ▶ JACQUEMUS
The founder of French label Jacquemus, Simon Porte Jacquemus is proof that independent labels still matter. An advocate of inclusivity of all forms, from diversity to gender, he was the one who made micro bags a trend that no one could ignore. There's a playfulness to his designs that also enjoy a strong social media presence. A winner of a number of fashion prizes, his collaboration with Nike this year was one of the most sought-after collections of 2022.

13

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

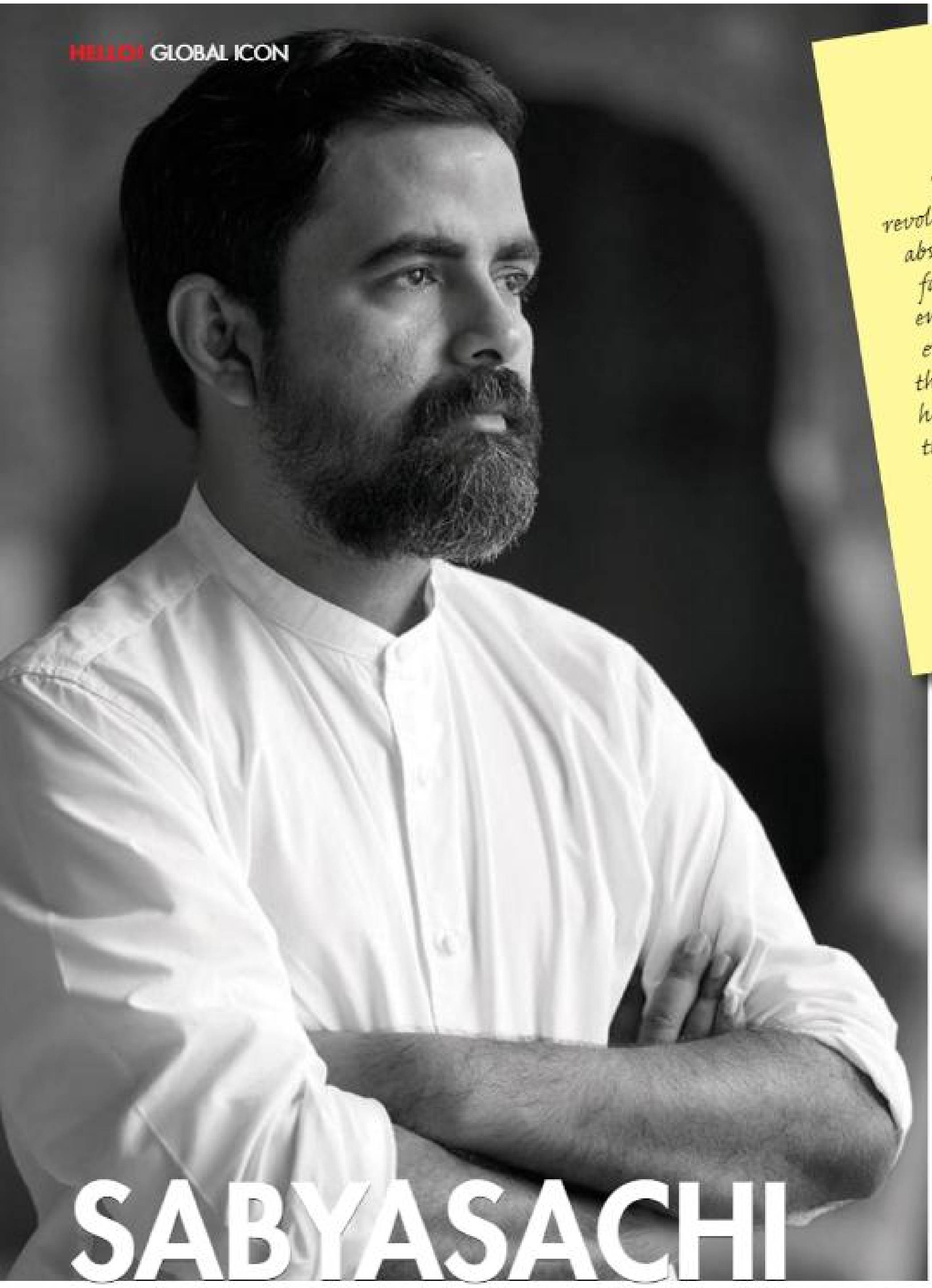
14

ISHA AMBANI ◀
A Yale University graduate who worked at consulting giant McKinsey & Company, Isha Ambani now heads Reliance Retail, promoted this year to lead the group's far-reaching retail businesses. This means that operations of luxury brands such as Valentino and Burberry fall under her purview in India. With Reliance now investing in Indian brands, Isha — a recent mother of twins — looks geared up to launch Reliance's retail business towards a new chapter, one that's both India-proud and future-forward. Her role in the company, started by her grandfather Dhirubhai Ambani, reflects how industrial families in India now hold women at equal par with their male heirs. A next-gen leader in business, Isha is going to be a key player in global luxury, given that all fashion houses have their eyes trained on India.

DEEPIKA ▶ PADUKONE
This year, Bollywood's reigning queen was made the global ambassador of two powerhouse luxury brands, Louis Vuitton and Cartier, proving her status as the fashion face of India. A former supermodel, Deepika Padukone has evidently caught the eye of international fashion houses and looks set to become India's representative in global luxury, as well. She also recently launched her own self-care brand, 82°E. Though its inaugural line of skincare products received mixed reviews, her candour regarding her own battle with mental health issues has lent the brand authenticity.

15

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES



SABYASACHI MUKHERJEE

SABYASACHI MUKHERJEE IS NOT MERELY A COUTURIER – THE MAN IS AN ARTIST. HIS CREATIVE PROWESS DEMANDS A STRONGER REINFORCEMENT OF HIS BRAND. INDIA'S ANSWER TO GLOBAL LUXURY, HE'S TAKEN OUR HERITAGE TO THE WORLD THROUGH COLLABORATIONS WITH LOUBOUTIN & POTTERY BARN. AND NOW HE SEALS HIS DOMINANCE WITH THE OPENING OF HIS NEW YORK BOUTIQUE. IN CONVERSATION WITH HELLO!, HE SHARES HIS GLOBAL VISION THAT STAYS TRUE TO HIS ROOTS

KJO KOMMENTS

"Sabya has been quite a fashion revolution. He's made the Bengal tiger his absolute symbol of excellence and high fashion. His clothes are beautiful, the embroidery stunning, understated, yet elegant to the point of genius. The fact that he's collaborating with Bergdorf, and his jewellery line is so celebrated, the fact that he was 'The Designer' in conversation with a fashion icon like Anna Wintour when she visited... Every high-profile bride has worn him — we're talking Priyanka, Deepika, Anushka, Alia, Katrina... And he's only growing!"

The Jamaican national motto celebrates its multi racial music by saying, "Out of many, one." Strangely, the same motto fits the Indian couture industry that's brilliantly represented by the one national icon of design and aesthetic refinement: Sabyasachi Mukherjee. His omnipresence and sheer richness of design leaving competition — if any — miles behind, the beauty being that this winner takes it all purely on the merit of his creative cadence, originality of design and depth of knowledge.

Kolkata's golden boy, Sabyasachi carries a bit of the city with him wherever he goes, its layered culture peeping through his design in more ways than one. Be it in the colonial influence of his colour palette, reminiscent of the life lived in Tolly Club. Or the way he has immortalised the colour red that somehow always feels like a shade of *alta* (red henna) that Bengali women wear on their feet. Or the Bengal tiger that emerges with much aplomb across his belts, bags and jewels.

There are many firsts to his credit: the ushering in of floral prints into the otherwise over-embellished *lehenga* story; the scrunched belt look over a billowy *lehenga*; the slender faced woman with spectacles on his ramp; the interplay of layered and embroidered borders on an otherwise rich, raw silk canvas; the dandy man who is bold on his colours and *banna* (a rooted reference to a Rajput man) in his panache. The couturier sets trends even when all he wishes to pursue is timeless tales enriched by eternal heritage.

That every iconic bride wishes to 'wear a Sabya' is a given. The magic is in the way he makes their inner personality resonate with his design. The white and gold look in a saree crafted for the young and bubbly Alia Bhatt, the mature wine palette he complimented Katrina Kaif's beauty with, the bold bride he sculpted out of Priyanka Chopra… Every Sabyasachi bride blends his very recognisable fashion fable with her strong, innate personality.

"I've never chased trends. I'm almost anti-trend. I believe that when you make something truly beautiful, people will find you"
- Sabyasachi

Every Sabyasachi store begs a visit for its royal interiors alone. His new New York address is a work of art, dotted with chandeliers, intricate artwork and rich upholstery

> **"I've always believed that to build a luxury house, you need to be patient and have a singularity of vision. I've been sowing the seeds for two decades, and now, the time has come for us to share our vision globally"**

Sabyasachi is like a sponge that absorbs cultures and also blends in seamlessly into them. He made all those fence sitters, who felt Indian design is too intense for the prevailing simplicity of global fashion, eat grass when his charm bracelet-inspired jewellery graced the windows of Bergdorf Goodman in New York, when the Christian Louboutin red was laced with Sabya textures, or when his sling with the Bengal tiger rubbed shoulders with Hermès and Dior bags.

As he opens his Pandora's box to the style-seekers of East Village, New York, it's indeed time to see Indian fashion find its pedestal in the global world of refinement. HELLO! speaks with the man of the moment himself.

You have singularly taken Indian couture to global bastions. You are the name synonymous with Indian luxe. How has the journey been? I've always believed that to build a luxury house, you need to be patient and have a singularity of vision. I've been sowing the seeds for two decades, and now, the time has come for us to share our vision globally. It's been an extraordinary journey so far, and I'm very humbled by the overwhelming response and support we received in New York.

Congratulations on the all-new store in New York. What was your vision for this address? I've often said I see myself as a ferryman between the past and the future. India is such a reservoir of history, art and culture — and I believe that for culture to be relevant, it needs to be dynamic.

My job is to make it dynamic for today's consumer. As a designer, I have the privilege to conserve, edit and tweak what I have known into a living legacy. I think when you truly know who you are, the aesthetic just follows. And the sensibility behind all my stores, including New York, comes from the spirit of Calcutta that's so beautifully embodied in the old homes and palaces of the city. It's where art, culture, craft, heritage and history come together seamlessly, but with a distinct point of view. It's layered together in this almost heady mix. Where legacy meets a certain intellectual sense of modernity in how hybrid it is and yet, each is distinct and unique. There's a certain site specificity to it. Each space and location renders a certain *je ne sais quoi* that is its own. The New York store became almost a metaphor for the journey from Calcutta to New York.

> **The sensibility behind all my stores, including New York, comes from the spirit of Calcutta that's so beautifully embodied in its old homes and palaces. It's where art, culture, craft, heritage and history come together seamlessly”**

At Bergdorf Goodman, you rub shoulders with the best in global design. How do you make your place in this glittering world? If you know who you are and are rooted in a real sense of self and authenticity, you will always be at home in the world.

Sabyasachi is such a heritage-driven brand. How do you create the bridge between this and global fashion trends? I've never chased trends. I'm almost anti-trend. I believe that when you make something truly beautiful, people will find you. So I've never been in conflict with domestic or global fashion trends for that matter.

You have immortalised the bride in a red *lehenga* look. What is the source of inspiration for that? It's rooted in heritage, culture and tradition — and the sheer power and resilience of the colour red. However, India has many stories; it's never just one. Not all Indian brides are rooted in red — ivories, pastels and the gamut of rich Indian colours are all part of the oeuvre of our heritage bridal collections.

From the Bengal tiger to the 'florals meet Indian lace', the layered *lehengas* to the boisterous colour palettes for men, Sabyasachi is a signature conjurer. How do you evolve, develop and render popular the many fashion trends that emerge in your genius mind? I don't approach clothing as fashion or trend. This is part of our shared living heritage and culture. What does make it designer, so to speak, is a perspective that I can bring to this incredible legacy. I see myself more as a conservationist and as someone who can offer a specific authentic point of view.

From regal bridal wear to belts, bags and jewels — and even home décor — Sabayasachi has left his mark in every creative field fathomable

How inspired is your design by princely India? I think my design is inspired by everything that's part of our history and culture. The royals of India were great patrons of art, craft and culture, and they epitomised the idea of slow luxury. This commitment to creating and fostering heritage inspires me.

What's brewing in the Sabya design stables? I'm committed to creating a complete ecosystem of luxury rooted in Indian heritage, craft and authenticity. So I have my eye on everything from home and beauty to hospitality.

INTERVIEW: ANSHU KHANNA

PRITI PAUL

IN CONVERSATION WITH THE YOUNGEST SCION OF THE APEEJAY SURRENDRA GROUP, AT HER INDO-MOROCCAN DELHI HOME, HELLO! FINDS OUT WHAT MAKES HER A TRUE CORDON BLEU GLOBAL CITIZEN WITH A CREATIVE SOUL AND A NOSE FOR BUSINESS

Dressed in a gown by Amit Aggarwal, Priti Paul opens her doors to her private oasis in the heart of Delhi, where she captures the essence of Marrakech yet showcases her innate Indianness

"I think we all are reinventing ourselves in the post-Covid scenario, decluttering our lives, doing what truly pleases us and going beyond the brief"

"So much of this house is Indian in influence, yet everyone who walks in calls it a Moroccan riad," smiles Priti Paul, as she ushers us into her Delhi home.

Touches of fine fresco art, magnificent arches and detailed trelliswork, all crafted by Indian artisans, fill this mini Moroccan palace. The home aptly reflects the dual existence of its resident, who is fiercely Indian at heart, yet blends into the Moroccan way of life like hand fits to glove.

It would, in fact, not be wrong to call her a cordon bleu global citizen who shuttles between continents. Born and schooled in Kolkata, she pursued her undergraduate studies at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA. Soon after college, this youngest scion of the Apeejay Surrendra Group had to jump into the family business when the Pauls lost their patriarch, and all three siblings — Karan, Priya and Priti — had to fill his large shoes.

Priti was sent to the UK, where she worked her way up in the male-dominated shipping enterprise of the family. It wasn't long before

> **"Our new home will be a Mecca of design that will be the finest coming together of Moroccan and Indian art influences. It will resonate with our love for all things handmade"**

she met her Moroccan husband, Joauad Kadiri, a hotelier and a man with as intense a taste in the arts as her. They had a fairy-tale wedding that got covered by global glossies — and Priti has remained the toast of glamour media, besides making her presence felt with the culture writers and the business press. Three gorgeous sons — Jad, Kais and Jai — a castle-like hotel in Marrakech and an equally strong repertoire of business portfolios to manage keep her on her tiny toes.

"I think we all are reinventing ourselves in the post-Covid scenario, decluttering our lives, doing what truly pleases us and going beyond the brief," she shares.

The latter comes easy to this versatile and innately creative soul, who has lived beyond the box all her life. She carefully combines her love for the arts with her nose for business in her strategies. Not to forget her innate Zen for luxe. Helming two verticals for the group, Apeejay Real Estate and Oxford Bookstores, she's brought in innovation and gravitas to both realms — though books, bookstores and literary events light up her eyes the most.

"I'm so glad that the world is once again returning to bookstores," she smiles.

Under her guidance, the century-old chain of Oxford Bookstores, the ombudsman of all bookstores in India, carefully stepped beyond the fuddy-duddy image you link to such shops. Instead, vibrant walls, Art Deco-inspired shelves, a crackling Cha Bar and a warm, welcoming environ sucks you into the world of words. At any Oxford Bookstore, you can encounter an army of young and hip denizens getting initiated into the literary world over hot chocolate and mozzarella cheese sandwiches.

Founded in 1920, Oxford came to the Pauls in 1987, when the Apeejay Surrendra Group acquired a slew of properties on Park Street in Kolkata, the bookstore being a part of the buyout. The Pauls felt that the city needed a place to offer "food for thought" in the form of a bookstore, which would weave into its very fabric. The Oxford Bookstore was retained and restored to its original glory. And under Priti's cerebral influence, it continues to play a role in the culture of this historic city, Park Street being part of her life.

"Kolkata and its people love literature and understand the soft power of culture," she says.

A power she herself carefully cultivates in every city she loves and lives in. Hence, in Kolkata, she celebrates books through the Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival that will "return after two years in January 2023. What makes it even more special is that with the festival, we will link the celebrations with 100 years of Oxford."

As a lover of all things Moroccan, especially its art, she dreams of one day creating a space where the finest of African art can reside. Meanwhile, she supports celebrated voices like author and artist Mahi Binebine, commissioning the translation of his novels into English. In fact, translation is her most loved bastion of literature.

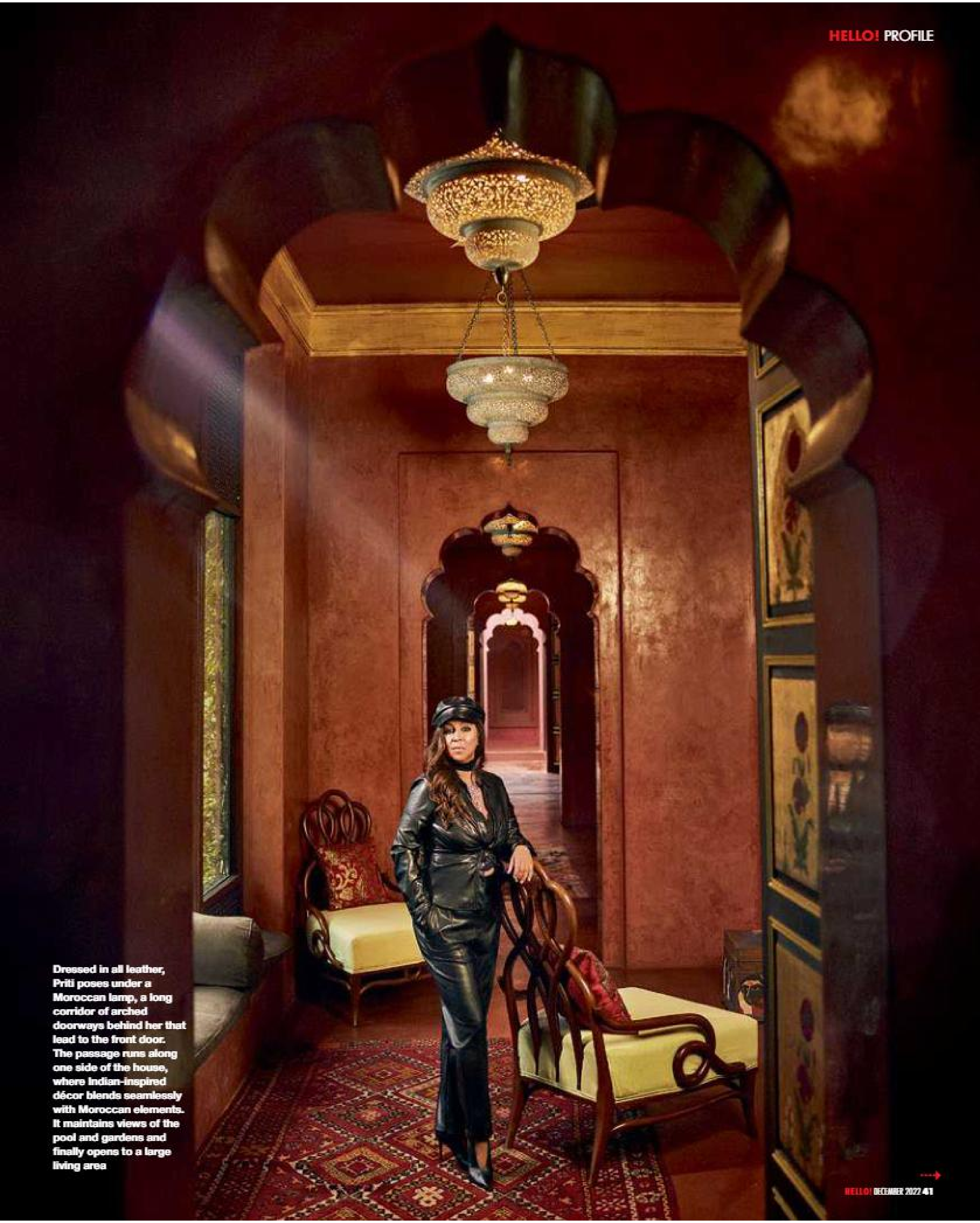
"Translation is a rare art. Right from the time we hosted the first edition of *Lost in Translation*, I have supported it significantly."

As friends of the Guimet Museum in Paris, Priti supports the Asian literature segment, helping books by Asian authors get translated into French. In reverse, she supports the Romain Rolland Book Prize instituted by the Institut Français en Inde to award the best books translated from French to any Indian language.

"This year, we took the onus of helping to translate 10 French books into Indian languages," she adds.

A committed mother, Priti tried hard to keep her boys close to their Indian roots, a thought that led to her rewriting the alphabet book with iconic references to India. Grown up now, they were the reason Priti took to writing *ABC Desi*.

"It was an idea that came to me while bringing up my children. When they would go through the ABC books, I realised they were the same as they were 60 years ago when my husband and I read them. The imagery was not particularly Indian, and I felt it would be hard to relate to for Indian children. Even for NRIs, the images were not something they could use to learn about their country or culture.



Dressed in all leather, Priti poses under a Moroccan lamp, a long corridor of arched doorways behind her that lead to the front door. The passage runs along one side of the house, where Indian-inspired décor blends seamlessly with Moroccan elements. It maintains views of the pool and gardens and finally opens to a large living area

"Kolkata and its people love literature and understand the soft power of culture"

An avid art collector, Priti's living area has on display an eclectic mix of rich textiles, antiques, hand-picked curios from markets from the world over, Moroccan table lamps with beaded fringes, as well as contemporary art pieces like the Ravinder Reddy head seen here. She lounges for the camera, dressed in her favourite boo-boo print off-shoulder dress, teamed with a Manish Arora choker atop a hand-carved round table clad in brocade

'It's a house designed by an artist more than an interior designer," says Priti, a petite bundle of energy. Dressed in a stunning Gaurav Gupta ensemble, she sinks into the cushions of a cosy alcove, with trelliswork overlooking a lush green garden and pool

> **"I enjoy the sharp designs of Tarun Tahiliani, the embroideries in Anamika Khanna's free-flowing ensembles, and the Kolkata-inspired designs of Sabyasachi"**

That's why I thought of *ABC Desi*, in which C could still stand for a car, but the image would be that of an Ambassador. P for panda is common, but why not depict a peacock instead? And T for tiger or tiffin? Incidentally, my children did not know about the concept of a tiffin box."

An architect who got married to a man who is a visual genius, Priti loves turning spaces into dreamy castles. Her hotel, Sahara Palace Marrakech, was one such marvel that was generously featured in *Sex & The City*, the movie.

Having passed on the reins of the hotel, the Kadiris are currently engaged in creating a riad for them to reside in. With sprawling courtyards, high roofs and sumptuous arches, a slew of water bodies and fountains and generous use of wood and frescoes, it promises to be "a Mecca of design that will be the finest coming together of Moroccan and Indian art influences. It will resonate with our love for all things handmade."

Besides books, Priti also leads Apeejay Real Estate, the group's logistics and industrial park business that recently accrued a funding of Rs 300 crore. The Apeejay warehouses set up in cities across India are facilities that cater to over 100 million consumers at a blink!

"Supply chain management was the most sought-after course at MIT this year. Modern-day retail will turn to these warehouses that can get your Louis Vuitton bag or Jimmy Choo shoes to your homes!"

A great fashionista and luxury buff, Priti enjoys "the sharp designs of Tarun Tahiliani, the embroideries in Anamika Khanna's free-flowing ensembles, and the Kolkata-inspired designs of Sabyasachi."

She believes the real luxury today is in marrying technology with high-end retail, and she's fascinated by how gen next acquires anything they wish for at the press of a button. Meanwhile, Priti continues to balance the lyrical world of books with the here and now of technology in her everyday life.

INTERVIEW: ANSHU KHANNA
PHOTOS: ABHISHEK KHANDELWAL
CREATIVE DIRECTION & STYLING: AMBER TIKARI
HAIR & MAKEUP: ANU KAUSHIK

WARDROBE ESSENTIALS

Kolkata-based multi-designer store, The Wardrobe, completes two successful years as a one-stop shop for luxury clothing at Quest Mall

Shivika Goenka

Abu Jani & Sandeep Khosla for Gulabo

Payal Singhal

If you're from Kolkata, or have been to the city in the past couple of years, there's a good chance that you would've come across The Wardrobe. It is, after all, fast becoming one of the top shopping destinations for Indian celebrities.

"Quest is the first and only luxury mall in East India and is proud to house The Wardrobe, which plays an important role in promoting Indian craftsmanship and skill," says Shivika Goenka, Director at Quest. "The Wardrobe is a one-stop shop for the best of Indian fashion under one roof. It provides customers with a strong curatorial lens on the best of Indian fashion presented in a modern and an aesthetic way. The Wardrobe promises a mix of luxury, prêt and contemporaneity."

Ridhi Mehra

Payal Singhal, one of the featured designers at the store, says: "I would like to congratulate the entire team of The Wardrobe on the occasion of their second anniversary. It's been an absolute pleasure interacting with the team over the past couple of years."

Singhal is one of the many noted names whose collections are proudly displayed at the store. Among them are Gulabo by Abu Sandeep, Ridhi Mehra, Abhishek Sharma, Shades of India, Soup by Sougat Patil and Somya Goyal.

"The store has the right vibe and profile that matches the aesthetic of our brand and connects with our target audience in Kolkata," Singhal adds. "We experienced gradual business growth with them, and I'm hopeful that The Wardrobe will be a prime designer wear shopping destination in the years to come."

Keeping in mind the varied range of designers and labels that have found a home at The Wardrobe, the interiors of the outlet is pleasingly minimal, keeping the spotlight focussed on the clothing on display. The design elements here are enhanced by muted gold accents and soothing botanicals.

Over the past two years, the store and its featured designers developed a strong and healthy relationship, which means that their new collections often make their way first to this retailer.

"The Wardrobe has a vision to bring forward a platform for designers to reach out to a wider audience and bring new collections to the city. I'm delighted to be able to cater to the contemporary tastes of modern Indian women through it," says designer Ridhi Mehra, while Sougat Paul, the founder of Soup, adds: "The Wardrobe has given us a great reach to luxury clientele. We are extremely happy to be associated with them. Congratulations on completing two years. We hope to work with you for many more!"

We, at HELLO!, can't wait to see what The Wardrobe has in store for us in the years to come!

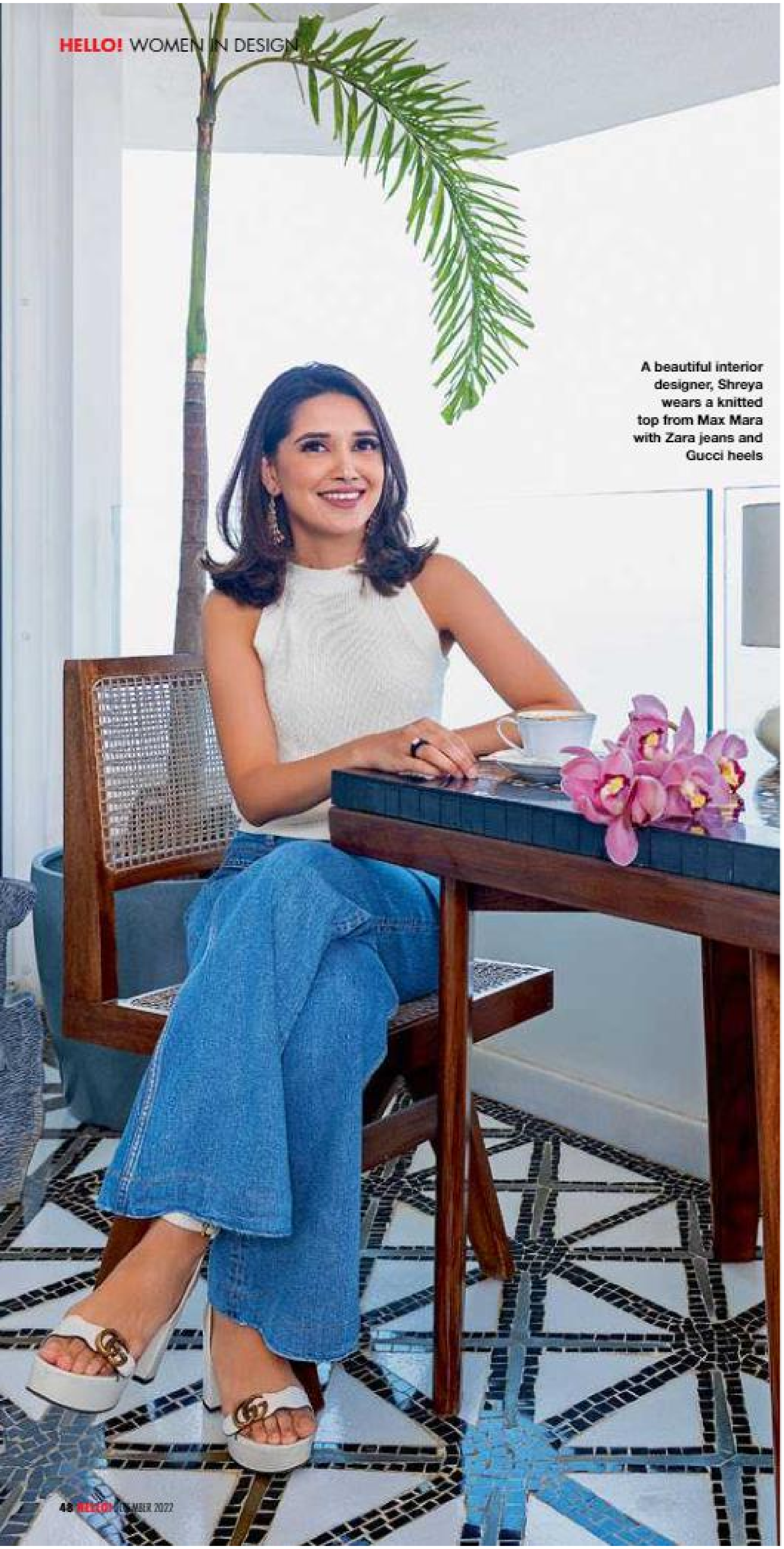
TEXT: SALVA MUBARAK

RIDING HIGH

HELLO! SPENDS A DAY WITH FOUR UBER TALENTED AND ACCOMPLISHED WOMEN IN DESIGN – SHREYA KANORIA, FARAH SIDDIQUI KHAN, ARUNDHATI DE-SHETH & RIDDHI BHANSALI MEHTA – TALKING ABOUT THEIR CREATIVE PROWESSES AND WHAT MAKES LIFE A CHARMED ONE

HELLO! shoots with four women in design, all at the top of their varied careers: Arundhati De-Sheth, Farah Siddiqui Khan, Riddhi Bhansali Mehta and Shreya Kanoria. The quartet looks lovely in outfits from Moonray and jewels curated by Arundhati De-Sheth. Farah accessorised with Miu Miu heels and Riddhi with Missoni espadrilles. Shreya sports Gucci platforms, while Arundhati is in a pair by Konstantin Starke

> "The future of the Indian art space looks like a diverse, eclectic mix of mediums and artists. It's absolutely thriving right now, and with our history of such a rich cultural past, it will surely continue to do so"
> – *Farah Siddiqui Khan*



A beautiful interior designer, Shreya wears a knitted top from Max Mara with Zara jeans and Gucci heels

> **"The most fun part of my job is that a new site is a new canvas, and I can do absolutely anything without being restricted by my previous designs"**
> ***– Shreya Kanoria***

It's a cool December morning in South Mumbai, and team HELLO! is setting up today's shoot at a beautiful home with four stylish and creative women, all at the top of their varied careers — interior designer Shreya Kanoria; curator and art advisor Farah Siddiqui Khan; jewellery advisor Arundhati De-Sheth; and graphic designer Riddhi Bhansali Mehta. Soon enough, the ladies are ready to pose in front of the lens, each bringing refreshing individuality and style, before getting comfortable for our candid chat about their busy yet colourful lives... And what makes them stand out in a crowd.

Tell us a little about your professional journey, the one that's brought you where you are today.

Shreya Kanoria: I've had a keen eye for design since childhood, and there was no other path for me. I chose to go to design school for higher studies, where I learned the technical aspect of interior design. After college, I had an amazing five years working under a reputed architect, where I got the opportunity to hone my skills further. I love the idea of problem-solving on site and marrying design with the more practical aspects of my work.

Farah Siddiqui Khan: My interest in art was kindled by my mother when I was just a little girl. Growing up in New Delhi, she'd take me to a lot of the exhibitions at private galleries and museums. In a way, art has been in my DNA, but professionally, the art market involves a completely different outlook. I'm lucky enough to wear so many hats in the art world as a curator and art advisor. I founded Farah Siddiqui Contemporary Art in 2004; it's a full-service art advisory and private curating firm, which remains my primary organisation. In 2018, I launched Cultivate Art, an online platform that's an entryway to initiate individuals into the world of art. I have a wonderful team that's always on the lookout for new talent. We work a lot with young collectors and people from the design world. And since 2020, I've launched three new organisations in the art, design and philanthropy space: BENNFT, Young Collectors Weekend and Life With Objects.

Arundhati De-Sheth: My professional journey began rather organically and serendipitously. I've always loved jewellery. My fondest childhood memories revolve around my mother's jewellery. I'm so glad that after graduating with an MBA from ESSEC Business School, Paris, I got some great internships and work experience in the world of high jewellery and watch-making. But a truly pivotal experience was working for Nirav Modi as a high jewellery sales expert. That role gave me training, knowledge and experience, and cemented my love for jewellery. When I took a break from working, I immediately gravitated to writing editorial features and interviews and providing insight into the world of international and Indian

> **"It's my passion to build awareness and appreciation for South Asian art, be it through private art consultancy and curation, or large-scale public art projects"**
> ***– Farah Siddiqui Khan***

Farah, a curator and art advisor, strikes a pose in a crisp white shirt and jeans from Zara, teamed with pumps from Miu Miu

fine jewels. It kept the connection alive even during a 'resting' period in my life. Finally, my firm took its own form and structure some time in 2018. It's been a gratifying time, as I help individuals looking to add fine jewellery pieces to their personal collection as well as curate seasonal collections that I amalgamate from a variety of sources.

Riddhi Bhansali Mehta: I'm Founder & Creative Director of Riddhi Mehta Designs, but haven't been professionally trained as a graphic designer. I grew up in Antwerp and went to Central Saint Martins, London, where I studied art history and curation. I then worked for several large art houses. My family is into diamonds and collecting art, so I spent my whole life surrounded by art and design. I moved to India and worked in my husband's family business in textiles and fashion. After I had my son a few years later, I decided to train myself in graphic designing software. In fact, Riddhi Mehta Designs grew from my bed, where I sat with my laptop during Covid. It was just me, trying to find my place in the world of design. I couldn't be more grateful for the clients who believe in me and my family and friends who support me. Today, we are a boutique studio specialising in branding and identity.

What does a typical workday look like for you? How do you create a healthy balance between a thriving business and family?

SK: I'm not much of a creature of habit, but I usually spend half the day in site meetings, reviewing the progress of work. The other half is usually spent meeting clients or vendors in the office. Of course, living in Mumbai means that I practically spend a great deal of time in my car! Weeknights are usually spent at home with family and close friends.

FSK: As a mother to a four-year-old, I've learned that creating time blocks is the best way for me to get work done without compromising on family time. It can go from meetings with artists, clients and business partners and collaborators to music classes with my daughter. It can definitely be hectic at times, but I wouldn't trade a moment of it!

ADS: Most days are different. I wake up in time to see my kids off to school. Once they leave, I get my first cup of coffee and scribble miscellaneous thoughts in my notebook; these could be about work or mundane home-related things. I need to write everything down the old-fashioned way! I begin work after a workout. Today, a lot of my work is on the phone, either via social media or WhatsApp, which can be quite draining. I'd love to change that in the coming year. In fact, I'm working on 'monotasking'. We're so used to multitasking, but I want to improve my focus by doing one thing at a time. My kids are used to me working at home and have taken to brazenly calling me 'jewellery lady'!

⇢

Dressed in a white tank top from H&M and Mango jeans, jewellery advisor Arundhati completes her look with jewels from her own curation and denim pumps from Tom Ford

> **"Jewellery is art and should be recognised for its artistic and aesthetic attributes, rather than thought of as a financial investment"**
> ***– Arundhati De-Sheth***

RBM: Breakfast with my son is around 7am. Then I'm on to planning my day and getting some 'me time', followed by a team call. I spend lunchtime with my son around noon, and between 1pm and 5pm, it's client calls or group calls. After that, I spend more time with my son (shower, bedtime, etc) and 8pm is family dinner. I then brainstorm ideas that need some quiet, and before bed, I pick up my Kindle for a while.

Share what you believe is the USP of your brand.

SK: I like to keep the framework clean and symmetrical. I tend to play around with loose furniture and fixtures. I believe that a space needs to age well and should be convenient to turn around whenever required. All my spaces look different as I'm not afraid to experiment. I feel that the client's space should reflect their personality and I design accordingly.

FSK: With over 15 years of experience in modern and contemporary art from South Asia, I've built and managed some of the most important collections of Indian art globally. It's my passion to build awareness and appreciation for South Asian art, be it through private art consultancy and curation or large-scale public art projects.

ADS: I would say it's the strong balance between the aesthetic and financial value of the pieces I offer a client.

RBM: My aesthetic is minimal, almost scandic, with lots of negative space. However, I strive to not be biased towards any design disciplines because to me, it's vital that the client's aesthetic shines — my job is to make sense of their style and create a balanced result.

Take us through your creative process from start to finish.

SK: I start by visiting the site and understanding the client's requirements. Next, I go through various iterations of different styles that will work in that particular space. I don't like to limit myself to any particular design sensibility and prefer to push the envelope. After shortlisting a few options, I present them to the client, and then based on their feedback, we move forward.

ADS: It's an intuitive process. I have a basic framework of questions ready for someone new who reaches out to me to get an idea of where they are at. Next, we meet in person and I go through the finer details and even try to list what jewellery pieces they already own. I don't want to

> **"I like having a problem to fix, and that's my approach with most projects. I hear out my client's dilemmas and find simple, elegant and visual solutions"**
> **– *Riddhi Bhansali Mehta***

propagate mindless consumption, so the process is slow and thorough. I try my best to get into their shoes and guide the process from there.

RBM: First, I try to understand the client's goal and ideate on how to achieve that. I then present routes to achieve the goal, defining all the key elements, trimming the fat and refining and presenting a polished overall design — at least that's the dream! (Laughs). In reality, the process is a lot more blurred than it sounds; there are lots of brainstorming sessions where we often go back to the drawing board to ensure that the key goals are being met. My team and I collaborate constantly; there's zero hierarchy, so everyone can feel safe and free to express their thoughts on every project (whether they are on the account or not!). In difficult moments, we often swap projects to look at things with a fresh set of eyes.

Farah, what makes art such a powerful tool in today's time — and what does the future of the Indian art space look like?

FSK: Art is and has always been a powerful tool because of the innate fact that it's a means of communication and archiving history. It's a means of preserving contemporary narrative, even when it may no longer be contemporary. The future of the Indian art space looks like a diverse, eclectic mix of mediums and artists. It's absolutely thriving right now and with our rich cultural past, it will surely continue to do so.

Arundhati, what are your favourite jewellery brands in India?

ADS: I love many home-grown brands — Hanut Singh, Studio Renn, Sajjante and GYAN come to mind immediately. There are so many more! In general, quality and craftsmanship shows. So I like to show my clients those details that perhaps don't meet the eye at first.

What keeps you motivated? Who, in your field of work, inspires you?

SK: The most fun part of my job is that a new site is a new canvas, and I can do absolutely anything without being restricted by my previous designs. I think the growth of the design industry in India is remarkable. People are doing such fabulous work, which keeps me motivated. Among international designers, I really admire Kelly Wearstler for her bold sensibility and personal style and look up to her for the brand she's created today.

A self-taught graphic designer, Riddhi stuns in a top from Refined Revolution, paired with bottom wear from Pepe Jeans and Aquazzura stilettos

Ridhi and Farah strike a pose for our cameras and gear up to try the some sumptious treats are placed on the table ahead.

> **"I'm working on 'monotasking'! We're so used to multitasking, but I want to improve my focus by doing one thing at a time"**
> ***– Arundhati De-Sheth***

ADS: Generally, I'm motivated by the positive feedback I receive. I love the excitement I feel when I chance upon some new designs and stones or a brand that isn't very exposed and I think would be novel to show. I love the thrill of the find. Internationally, there are some people doing lovely things in my field, like New York's FD Gallery.

RBM: I think it's just part of my education. I was always told to try my best. Even if I failed, I would at least know that I tried my best. I like having a problem to fix, and with most projects, that's exactly the approach I take. I hear out my client's dilemmas and spend my days brainstorming simple, elegant and visual solutions.

Tell us about the projects you're working on currently.

SK: I'm working on a few homes and offices. A very recent development is a new children's play area that I will design!

FSK: I'm working on the next edition of a young collectors' weekend for January 2023 in Mumbai, as well as the next exhibition of Life With Objects. I launched this venture in 2020 with another passionate business partner, design consultant Natasha Mehta, where we spotlight ceramics and crafts. Just last month, I brainstormed and ideated with Rahul Damodaran, my BENNFT co-founder, for a web 3-based art and philanthropy platform at the Dubai Design District. We also have something exciting coming up at the next India Art Fair.

RBM: I'm working with a really exciting brand called Art Garde, which is a digital platform for NFTs and digital twins of real-world art. I'm also working with an awesome FMCG brand called PHAB, which aims to make healthy, protein-based snacks accessible to masses, as well as SILA, a platform that's already taken the facilities management sector by storm and is now expanding into real estate. And last but not least, I'm working with an upcoming restaurant called Ultimus, a Dubai-based burger brand.

Which of your professional projects are you most proud of?

SK: My own home, as it's so close to my heart.

FSK: Curating the first Elephant Parade in India for Elephant Family (founded by late Mark Shand), to raise funds to help secure 101 identified elephant corridors across India. I'm conscious about including a broad range of talent for the parade. Each artist invited to participate brought a unique approach and sensibility — from eminent

Arundhati and Shreya indulge in some delicious goodies placed on the coffee table, with exotic flowers that lend a gorgeous scent to the living area of this impressively decorated sea-facing apartment.

fine artists and iconic fashion designers to folk and tribal artists. I was excited by the possibility of juxtaposing a range of artistic practices on one monumental platform.

ADS: I'm proud of my annual jewellery show, which takes place between Navratri and Diwali. The message I want to send out with the show is that jewellery is art and should be recognised for its artistic and aesthetic attributes, rather than thought of as a financial investment. I pour myself into it for months. I almost single-handedly design the show, select the vendors and every single jewel, work on the pricing, design the space and invite all the guests! I get to travel, to meet new people, to hunt down new sources… It's a creatively invigorating time.

RBM: Honestly, all of them. I feel that I grew and learned something new with every project. They are all very close to my heart, and it'd be a challenge to name just one.

What are your go-to brands, and how do you use fashion to express yourself?

SK: I believe fashion comes and goes, but style is something that's innate to a person. I like to wear something that makes me feel good, branded or not. I designed many of my clothes, particularly party wear. My choice of clothing completely depends on my current mood! And, like my interior design, it's a marriage of aesthetics with practicality and comfort!

FSK: My personal style is very minimalist. I believe in curating outfits that I can wear again, so the brands that instantly attract me are those that have this vision in their design ethos. My go-to brand is Lovebirds. I love the new aesthetic by Inca India, as well as Akaaro. I also love the elegant, chic designs of Ralph Lauren and Italian designers who create timeless pieces, like Loro Piana and Brunello Cucinelli.

ADS: My personal style is comfort-chic. I don't think I ever wear any thing that makes me feel self-conscious. I have eclectic taste and like many home-grown Indian brands as well as street shopping, as much as I love shoes and leather goods from international labels. I tend to play safe with my overall appearance, but with growing years and personal confidence, I hope to push the envelope some more.

RBM: My personal style is refined with a hint of street. I like to look effortlessly put together. The idea is to look casual but collected. I like Refined Revolution, Vince, Zara, Chloé, Adidas and Patrizia Pepe.

> **"I strive to not be biased towards any design disciplines because to me, it's vital that the client's aesthetic shines – my job is to make sense of their style and create a balanced result"**
> ***– Riddhi Bhansali Mehta***

TEXT: JEENA J BILLIMORIA
PHOTOS : RYAN MARTIS
CREATIVE DIRECTOR: AVANTIKKA KILACHAND
FASHION EDITOR: SONAM POLADIA
JUNIOR STYLIST: ANUSHREE SARDESAI
FOOD CURATION & TABLE DÉCOR: ARTZ COLLECTIVE & MENUSCRIPT - FOOD STORIES BY MONA DALAL
JEWELLERY COURTESY: ARUNDHATI DE-SHETH

Nature's Basket
in-store | www.naturesbasket.co.in | app | 8880077745
taste the world

NATURE'S BASKET
FINDS NEW ADDRESS IN MUMBAI

Nature's Basket has unveiled a new flagship store at Mumbai's Nepean Sea Road — the 35th address in its chain of countrywide outlets. India's foremost retail destination for fine foods from around the world, the 4700sqft space reflects the brand's promise of being the go-to place for all gourmet needs. Think exotic items like 20 varieties of mushrooms, including fresh truffles, as well as a vegan patisserie offering over 100 varieties of cheese and ways to help you grow your own microgreens. At the launch were culinary and lifestyle influencers from Mumbai, as well as Shashwat Goenka, Sector Head - Retail & FMCG, RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group, who said, "The addition of this store in the heart of South Mumbai will delight our well-travelled, discerning customers. It reaffirms the group's belief in India's increasing gourmet appetite, and through Nature's Basket, our customers can 'Taste the World' right here."

KL RAHUL, ATHIYA SHETTY
TO WED THIS JAN

Ace cricketer KL Rahul and actor Athiya Shetty are all set to tie the knot this January, though the exact date is still under wraps. The couple is looking forward to a traditional wedding and have even finalised their individual ensembles. The duo has reportedly forsaken the five-star banquet hall. Instead, Athiya's father Suniel Shetty's Khandala home, Jahaan, will host the intimate ceremony.

EMINEM BAGS A SPOT
AT THE ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME

Marshall Bruce Mathers III, a.k.a Eminem, officially joined the prestigious ranks of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. At a Los Angeles ceremony in November, he was given the honour by Dr Dre, the legendary rapper and producer who had mentored him at the very beginning of his career, bringing them both full circle. "I knew his gifts were undeniable," said Dr Dre. "Each of us was exactly what the other one needed — and I was willing to bet my entire career on that." Eminem brought hip-hop to middle America and became one of the industry's best-selling rappers ever. His journey to fame was showcased in a video montage, featuring clips from artists like Adele, Elton John and Rihanna, all of whom sang praises of his unrivalled skills.

MARRAKECH FILM FESTIVAL HONOURS
RANVEER SINGH

In recognition of his stupendous careergraph, actor Ranveer Singh was honoured at the 2022 Marrakech International Film Festival held in Morocco, where the actor represented Indian cinema on a global stage. "Cinema is a unifying force. I feel immensely honoured that my work has transcended cultural and geographical boundaries and has earned me such love and recognition in beautiful Morocco. I'm overwhelmed with gratitude!" Singh shared. The *Bajirao Mastani* star took centre stage at the event to dance and perform an impromptu rendition of *'Apna Time Aayega'* as he received the Etoile d'Or Award. The festival previously honoured the likes of Amitabh Bachchan, Shah Rukh Khan and Aamir Khan with this award.

INAYATINDER KAUR
MAKES HER DEBUT AT LE BALL

This year, Princess of Patiala Inayatinder Kaur made a splashing debut at the prestigious Le Bal des Débutantes, popularly known as 'le Bal', at Shangri-La Paris. She joins the list of a number of other beautiful faces from India — including Isha Ambani, Shanaya Kapoor and Ananya Panday — who presented themselves to high society at the ball, which is held annually in November in Paris, bringing together 20 to 25 debutantes aged 16 to 22 from the world over. Dressed in a gorgeous gold Rahul Mishra gown, Inayat was escorted by Charles de Crussol d'Uzès from the House of Crussol.

TEXT: EESHA KULKARNI

Meera Pyarelal, Founder, Temple Town

LUXE LIVING

Meera Pyarelal, founder of interior design studio and bespoke furniture brand Temple Town, brings us the luxurious penthouse she designed for Kochi-based jeweller, Elsa Joy Alukkas

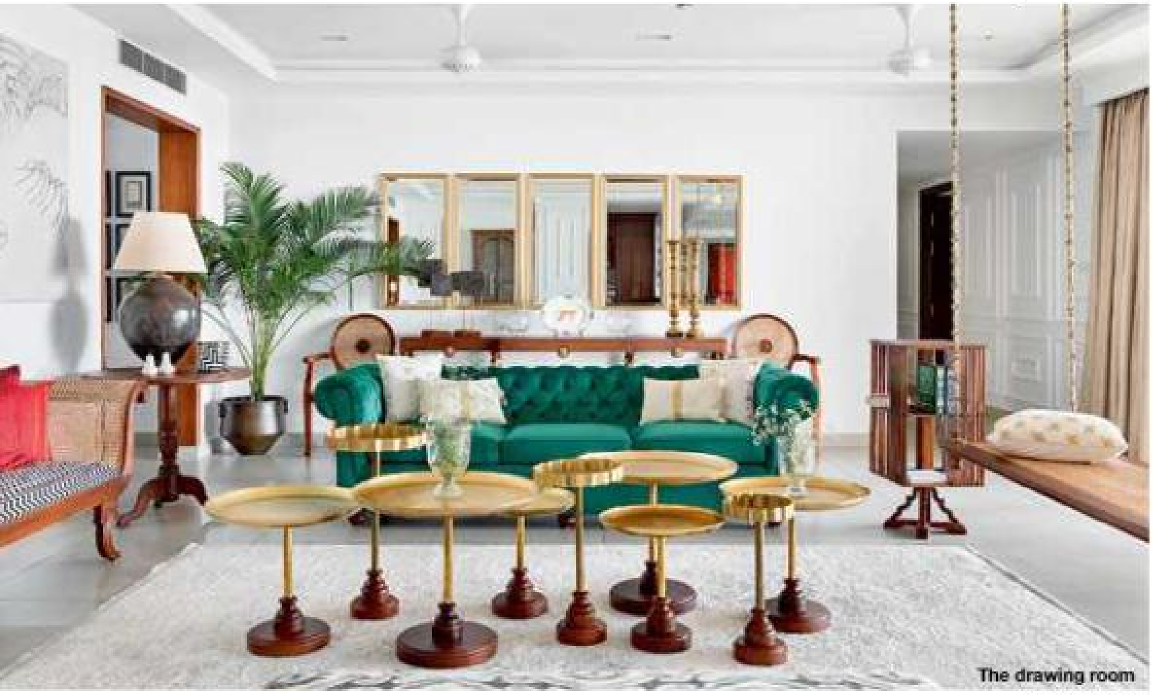
An expansive penthouse, spanning 5,000 sqft, located on the 22nd floor of the Joy Alukkas Tower, is the epitome of luxury in Kochi. Offering a panoramic view of the city, this spacious apartment is filled with beautiful period furniture and design classics, set against a colourful palette — all courtesy Meera Pyarelal, the founder of interior design studio and bespoke furniture brand, Temple Town.

"It was an absolute pleasure to work with Elsa Joy Alukkas, as she had impeccable taste and insisted on using reclaimed wood and sustainable options wherever possible," says Meera, the designer entrusted with creating an intimate space for the Kochi-based jeweller and her family, for them to unwind as well as set aside ample room to entertain friends.

"We created a beautiful reception in the entrance lobby with a Queen Anne console and a sculpture from Anthropologie UK against the backdrop of plaster mouldings," says Meera, who cleverly conceived looks that evoked different moods in every room. "A relaxed formality was set in here, with the partnering of antiques and lush greenery."

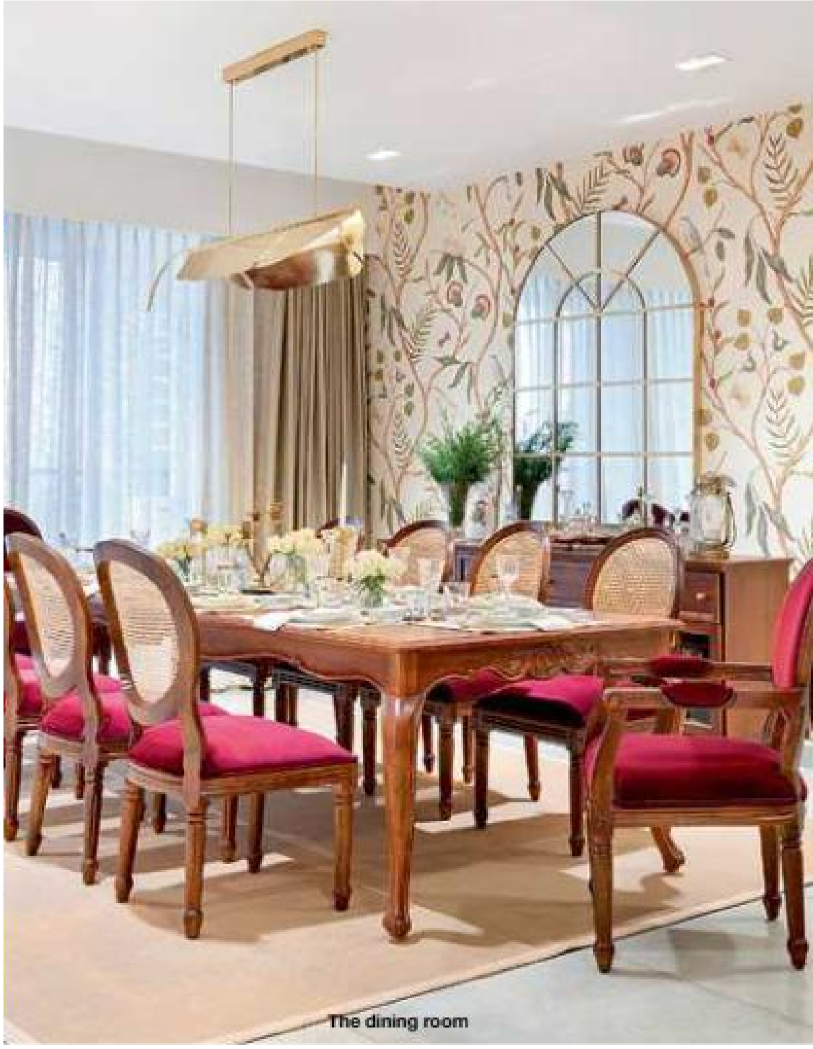
As you enter the foyer, there's a cane-and-wood chest that occupies the pride of place and provides valuable storage. It's accentuated with a beautiful, vintage mirror and botanicals, too. Vibrant colours, gorgeous period furniture and layered fabrics are key to this glamorous style.

In the formal living room, a repurposed, old door from a *haveli* in Jaipur is flanked by two Regency chairs, upholstered in white and gold silk, reminiscent of the quintessential Kerala textile. The drawing room has a sumptuously finished chesterfield in heavy green velvet, a Dutch colonial *divan* with piles of silk cushions, a traditional South Indian *oonjal*, or swing, and a set of brass-and-wood centre tables, resulting in an intriguing mix of design classics. A console table with a line of ornate brass mirrors here adds glamour and increases the sense of space. The beautiful artwork above the *divan* is charcoal on silk by



The drawing room

The formal living room



The dining room

award-winning artist Suneesh from Kerala.

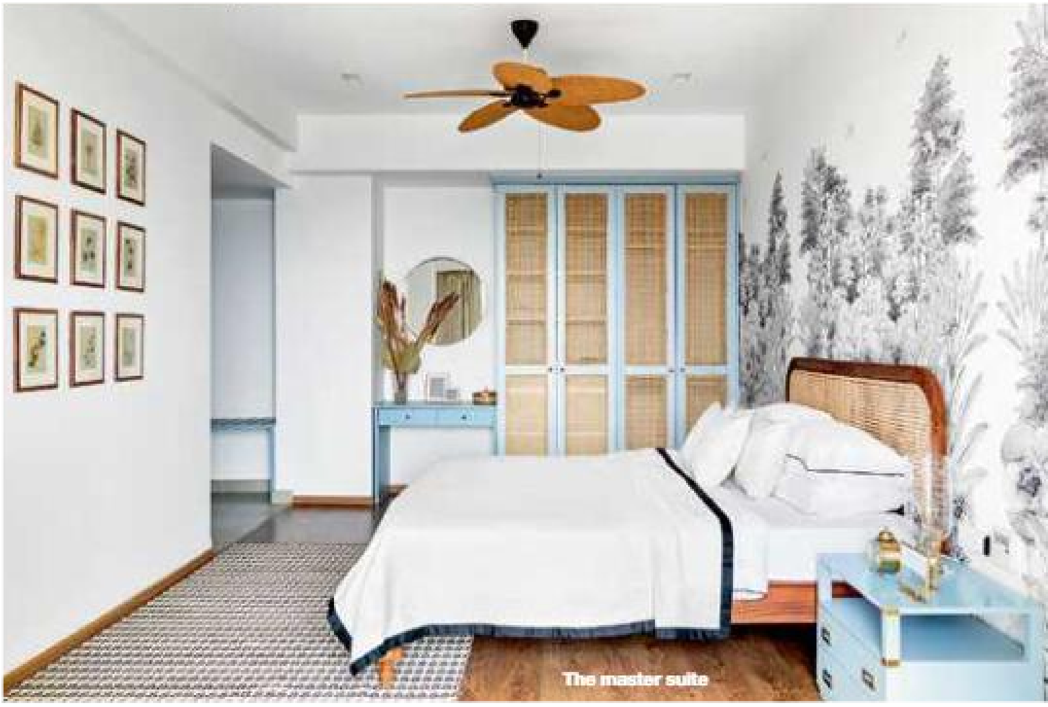
The dining room is a combination of classic elements and playful twists. The freshness of the Lewis & Wood wallpaper and brass mirror is a beautiful foil to the traditional Louis XVI style furniture. A bespoke brass pendant light in the form of a banana leaf envelopes the entire table. This 10-seater was styled using beautiful crockery from Good Earth's Rosabagh series, brass cutlery, and customised linen napkins.

As you move to the private areas of the home, you will notice that the bedrooms are dressed in unconventional colours, with boldly patterned wallpapers and furnishings at every turn. The master suite has European-inspired plaster mouldings, black-and-white prints from Rome and tropical-patterned bed linen that lend the space an Italian vibe. The attached balcony offers far-reaching views of the city.

The wintry blue bedroom has a handsome cane bed, set against the backdrop of a tropical *kalakaari haath* wallpaper that's classic, colourful and inviting. The wall opposite the bed has a collection of dried flowers, which is a stylish and sustainable way to enjoy your favourite blooms all year round. From the silk curtains with crochet embroidery to the velvet seating, everything in this room spells luxury.

The guest bedroom has an antique wooden panel for a headrest, beautiful objects, layered textiles, art and lamps, managing to be both calm and stimulating.

One of the bedrooms was converted into a media room-cum-study with a wall of antique stamps, velvet drapes and a painted console. It can also double up as a hangout zone, where the family can relax.



The master suite

In keeping with the Alukkas' refined tastes, a bespoke lacquered kitchen in pastel green, with a statuario marble backsplash and brass fittings, was specially designed for the home. A breakfast station was also created in pleasant tones, with perfectly scaled panels for doors, cane lights and bar stools in *Ajrakh* print silk fabric.

The main balcony has a wall of potted plants that reflects the family's love for greenery, while the plantation chair brings a note of nostalgia.

HELLO! takes a tour of the refined yet eclectic weekend retreat that also serves as a showhome for Anuja and Mayank Gupta, co-founders and creative directors of apartment9, a high-end home décor and luxury interiors brand. Here, the duo is seen in the family lounge of their Gurugram apartment, where a ceiling light from Klove Studio is the pièce de résistance

ANUJA & MAYANK GUPTA

THIS STYLISH COUPLE KNOWS THE ART OF CURATING BEAUTIFUL HOMES, AND THROUGH THEIR POPULAR INTERIORS BRAND, THEY HAVE BECOME THE GO-TO ADVISORS FOR INDIA'S SWISH SET. HELLO! GETS A TOUR OF THEIR BEAUTIFUL GURUGRAM HOME – AND A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS TREAT!

"A home should reflect who lives in it," says Anuja Gupta, her statement truly evident in the beautiful house she shares with her husband Mayank in Gurugram's posh address, DLF The Camellias.

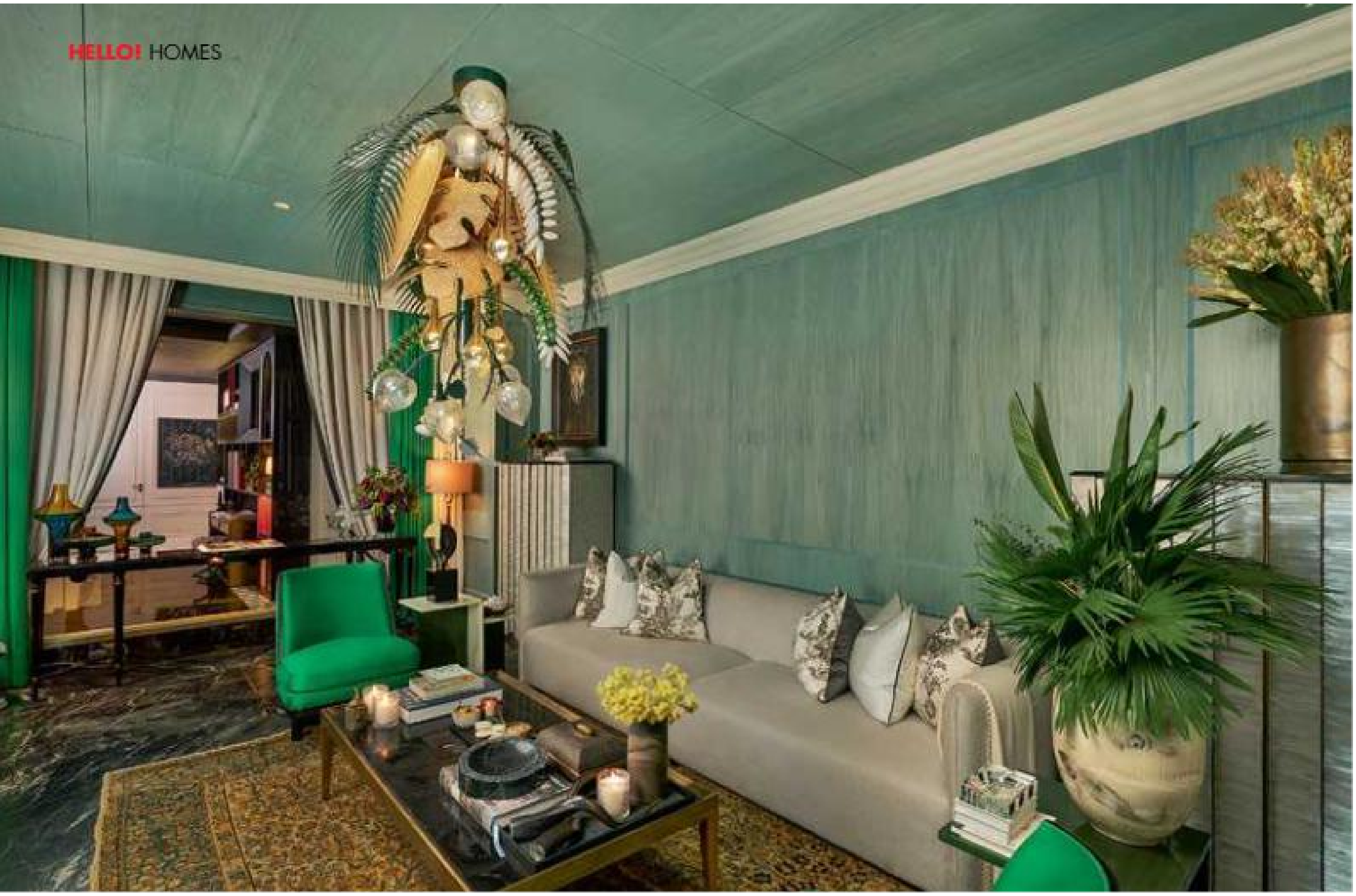
Their three-bedroom apartment is the last word in understated luxury. Each room is thematically different from the other, yet exudes a lived-in comfort that makes the space a cohesive unit reflecting their personalities.

Whether it's the plush and spacious living room, the cosy and nature-inspired family lounge, the equestrian and clean-cut 'Ralph' bedroom, the decadent and old-world 'Garcia' bedroom, the classic and commanding master bedroom, or the striking oriental bathroom, where a larger-than-life golden dragon adorns an entire wall, every nook is an advertisement of the creative acumen of its owners and designers. An unsurprising fact considering they are the proprietors of one of India's most successful furnishings and interiors brands, which they built from scratch 17 years ago — Anuja and Mayank are the co-founders and creative directors of apartment9.

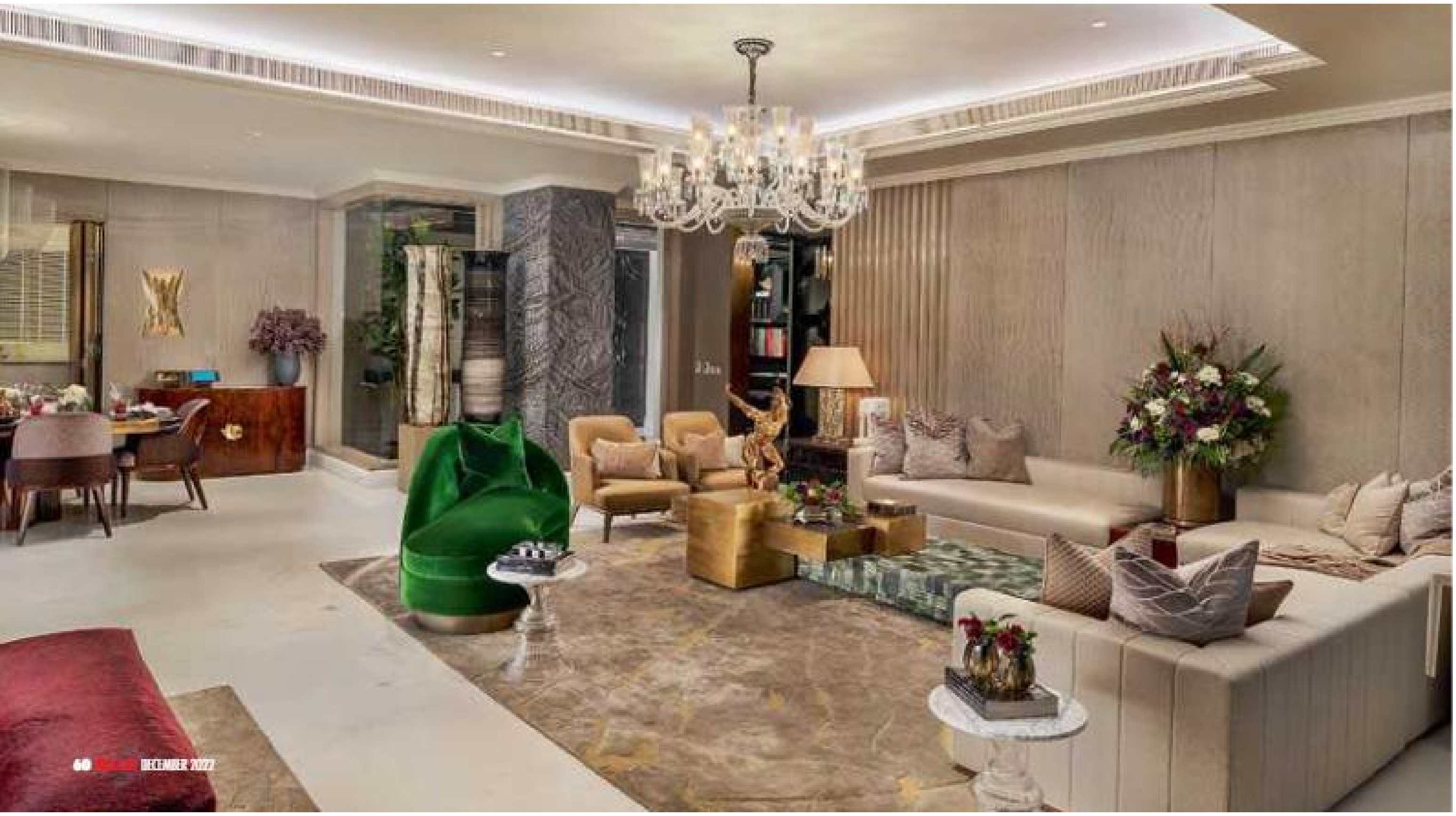
"We were both part of the family business, which made linens for the best international brands. Some of our friends asked us to retail what we made in India, and so we established the apartment9 retail store as a weekend passion project," says Anuja.

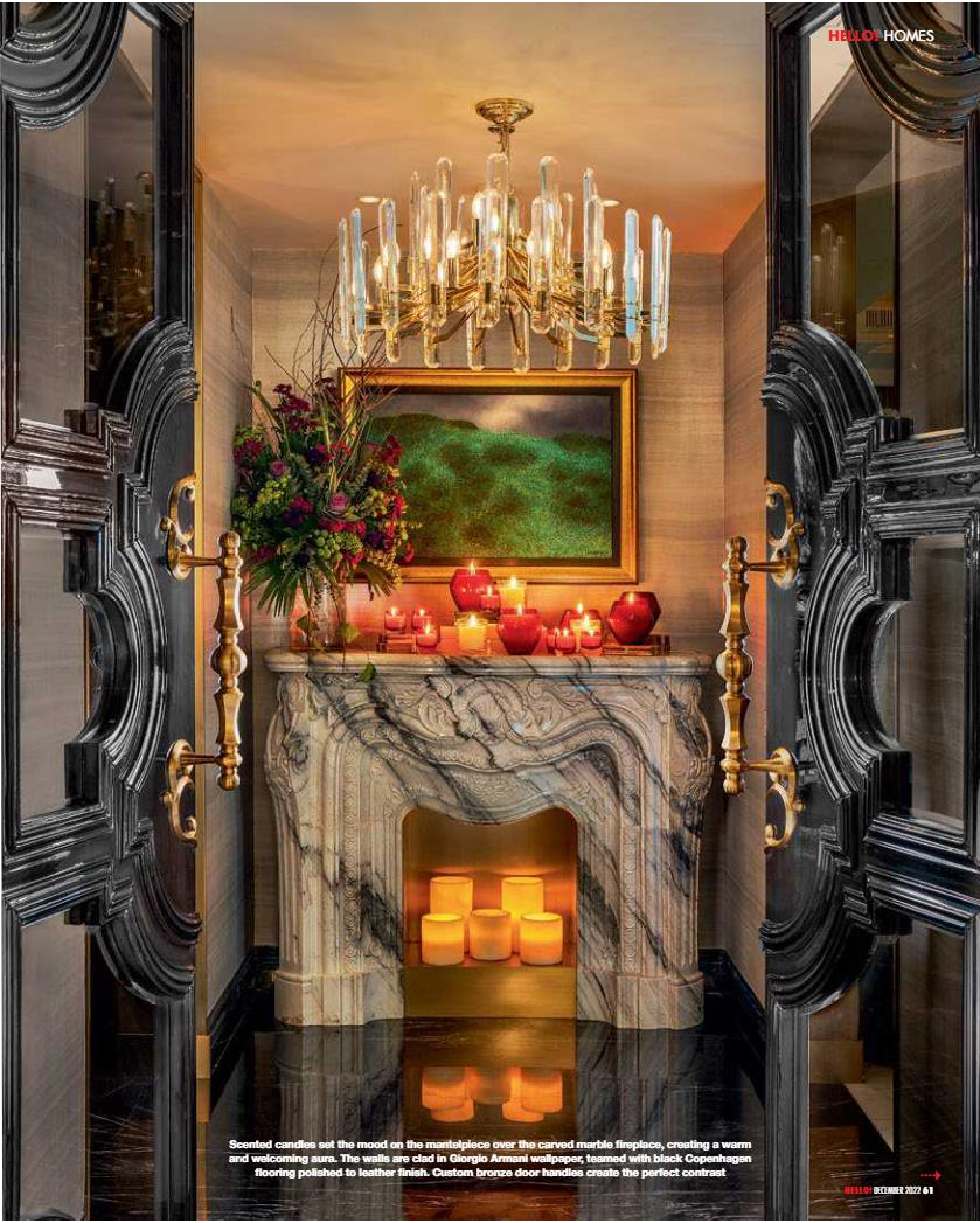
Mayank adds: "We both have

⇢



A cosy welcoming sanctuary in Gurugram on the bustling Golf Course Road, the Gupta home is the perfect haven for the family to unwind and also entertain their friends. The palette is a blend of greens, whites and blacks that exude a sense of warmth. A large internal window flanked by heavy drapes connects the lounge to the corridor that takes one to the bedrooms (above). Each room in this apartment has a theme, a testament to the Guptas' creativity and style. The general vibe around the house during the day is of space and light, whereas in the evening, lighting fixtures are used to make the areas more alluring and accentuate the artisanal elements to create visual narratives. Bringing the common area to life is a brass sculpture by Rajesh Ram on a mix-media centre table made of blocks, patch-worked in ostrich leather, black forest stone and wood, in addition to a dramatic chaise-like sofa in velour and cushions from Pierre Frey (below)





Scented candles set the mood on the mantelpiece over the carved marble fireplace, creating a warm and welcoming aura. The walls are clad in Giorgio Armani wallpaper, teamed with black Copenhagen flooring polished to leather finish. Custom bronze door handles create the perfect contrast

→

> **"Paris is our favourite destination. We try to visit the city multiple times a year... For our last trip, we went to St. Andrews in England because the boys and I are avid golfers. Travel is the best education for them and us, too"**
> ***– Mayank Gupta***

MBA degrees and never studied design, but we intrinsically like to design our own spaces. In fact, we designed our own retail store. People loved it so much that they started asking us to design their homes. Since then, it's grown very organically. We were retail centric at the beginning, but slowly and gradually, we've grown the business to what it is now."

Over time, apartment9 expanded to include furniture manufacturing and interiors curation to its portfolio. The two are now experts at putting together an entire look for clients.

"Our expertise lies in utilising every aspect of the space to make it look its best," says Anuja. "You can see it in our apartment, which we designed to offer a seamless view of the golf course from the bathrooms through to the balcony."

High-school sweethearts, the couple met at Delhi's Modern School, Barakhamba Road, and have been together since Class 12. Though both were trained to join the family textile business (Anuja's family owns the popular bathroom fittings brand FCML, yet she chose to begin her professional career with Mayank's father), their creative inclination was evident early on. When Mayank returned to India from the US, having pursued an MBA at the Rochester Institute of Technology and worked at Crate & Barrel, he was tasked with putting together a brand-new factory for the business.

"Mayank had no experience in this field, but he had a knack for creating spaces, and he did a wonderful job with it. Even after all these years, the factory façade is unique."

"After we got married, we broke down a part of our ancestral home and redid it in our style. We installed a platform bed in our bedroom, which was a very experimental move back then, but we loved it! We had seen these kinds of designs on our travels and wanted to create our space the way we liked it," shares Anuja, who believes they are equally well-matched as a couple and as business partners, as they balance each other's personalities well.

Business interests aside, over the years, their most steadfast passion has been their love for travel.

"Our favourite destination is Paris. We try to visit the city multiple times a year both for professional and personal reasons," shares Mayank. "For our last trip as a family,

Teaming with beautiful embroidered textiles, bed linen, gilded lamps and vintage curios, this bedroom takes inspiration from a French chinoiserie. The wall behind the bed is upholstered in embroidered silk from Pierre Frey

Stylish and eclectic, like the interiors of her home, entrepreneur and design connoisseur Anuja Gupta is dressed in a silk quilted Raw Mango jacket, as she poses against the backdrop of the family lounge. Seen behind her is a chandelier from Europe and a cabinet in Selenite stone, with an artwork by Souza above it

> **"I love laying out beautiful tables. I joke that I'm in the wrong business because this is my true passion! I like to creatively use things that are already in my collection or are easily available"**
>
> ***– Anuja Gupta***

we went to St. Andrews in England because the boys and I are avid golfers. Travel is the best education for them and us, too."

Parenthood has also been a fulfilling experience for them. Anuja describes their two boys, Sumair (16) and Kartikey (12), as being as distinct as chalk and cheese. While the former is quiet and introspective, the younger one is a firecracker with a penchant for philanthropy, having started the Young Helper's Initiative to help underprivileged children.

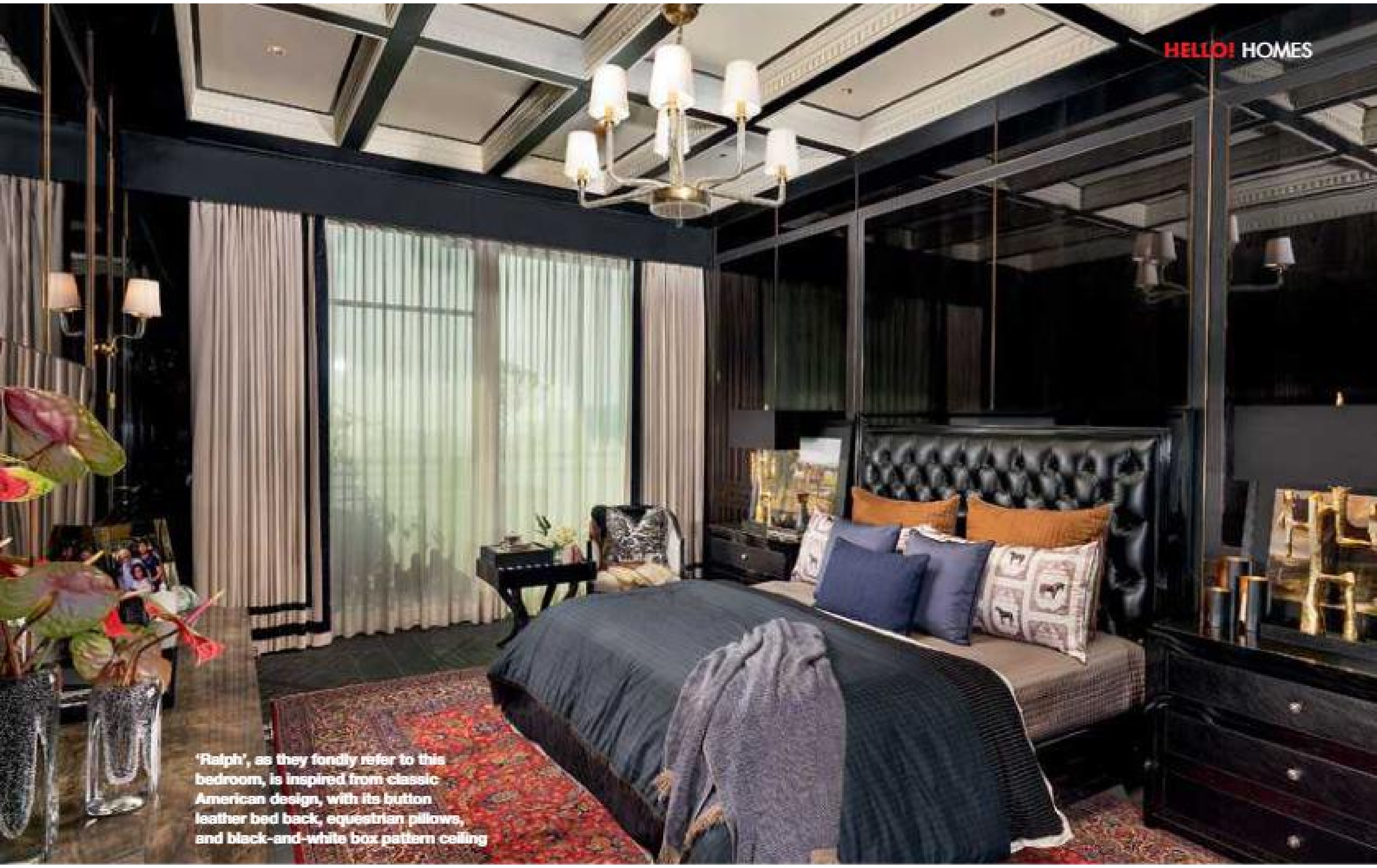
"They make us who we are," say the proud parents.

The couple's other interests include a love for music, art and coffee-table books, which they painstakingly collected from around the world. One sees their varied passions come together seamlessly in their apartment. Thoughtful details like personalised stationery, laundry bags and towels; curated works of art that range from a selection of the masters to more contemporary names; quirky décor elements and beautifully crafted rugs… All home accents make a statement without seeming over the top. These flourishes create the 'mood', which, according to the Guptas, is what sets their practice apart. It's also the mantra they employ when entertaining close friends and family.

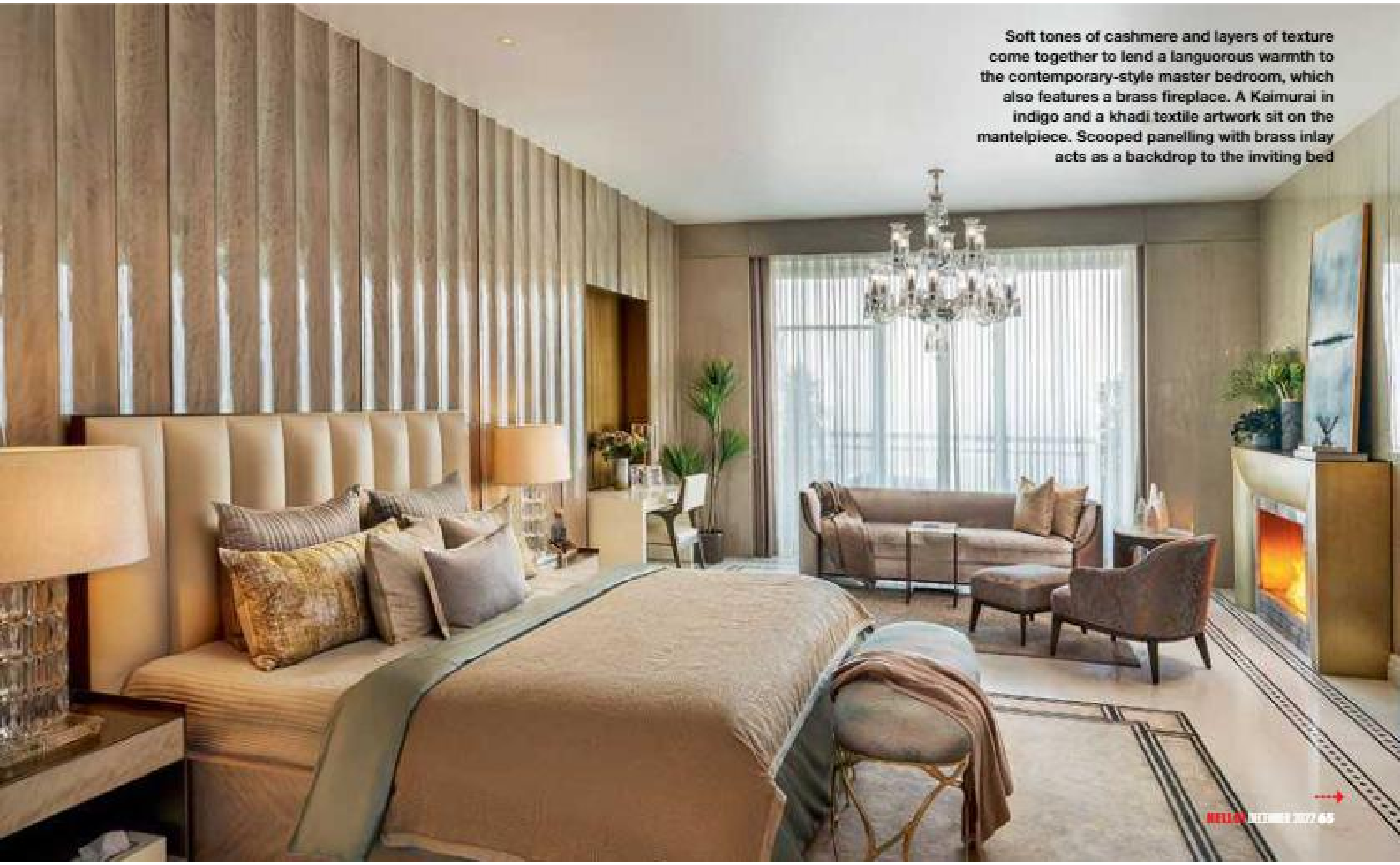
At their apartment, Mayank is in charge of the music and wine — of which he has in-depth knowledge, being a member of a wine club — and Anuja is the affable hostess who assembles cosy tablescapes. The one currently on display signals the onset of Christmas festivities.

"I love laying out beautiful tables. I joke that I'm in the wrong business because this is my true passion! I like to use things that are already in my collection or are easily available, and I use them creatively.

"I picked up these books at the second-hand book market at Daryaganj. The candles are from apartment9, the snowflakes were custom-made, and I found some of these goodies on Instagram. Tying it all together are my lovely Croquembouches, to add the decadent Christmas vibe," she smiles.



'Ralph', as they fondly refer to this bedroom, is inspired from classic American design, with its button leather bed back, equestrian pillows, and black-and-white box pattern ceiling



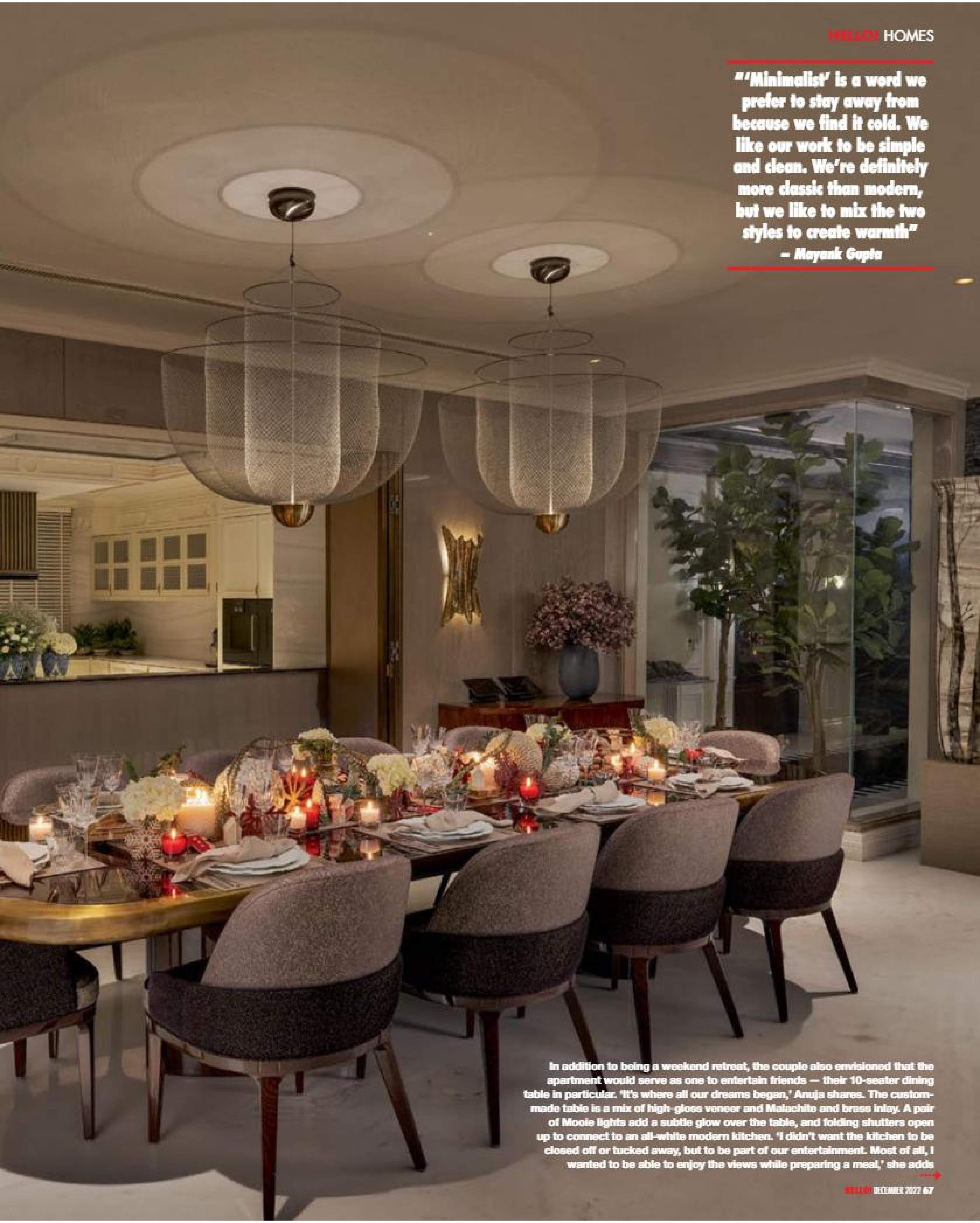
Soft tones of cashmere and layers of texture come together to lend a languorous warmth to the contemporary-style master bedroom, which also features a brass fireplace. A Kaimurai in indigo and a khadi textile artwork sit on the mantelpiece. Scooped panelling with brass inlay acts as a backdrop to the inviting bed

It's Christmas splendour, indeed, at the Gupta home. Anuja creates a festive table setting, with all things beautiful and iconic of the season. She styles her table using crockery and Villeroy & Boch stemware. Flannel herringbone table mats with linen napkins create different heights. A pile of books tied in twine, wooden snowflake cut-outs and candles from Cosmya bring the tablescape together

"My idea of laying the tables with such care is to initiate memorable and meaningful conversations. I do them all myself, and they change as per the occasion. Even when we entertain casually, I love to personalise my tables. Everyone can offer good food and drink, but my endeavour is to personalise the experience. I believe life is about experiences and doing things together so we can create memories."

One would be hard pressed to box their design aesthetic into preconceived categories, but that's where the beauty of their practice lies. It's witnessed in the seamless absorption of a model sculpture of Banaras within contemporary luxe surroundings. It's seen in the Kazakh rug that holds the pride of place in an ultra-modern bedroom. It's evident in the bright pop of emerald that a velvet settee provides in a living area awash with muted blacks, whites and greys.

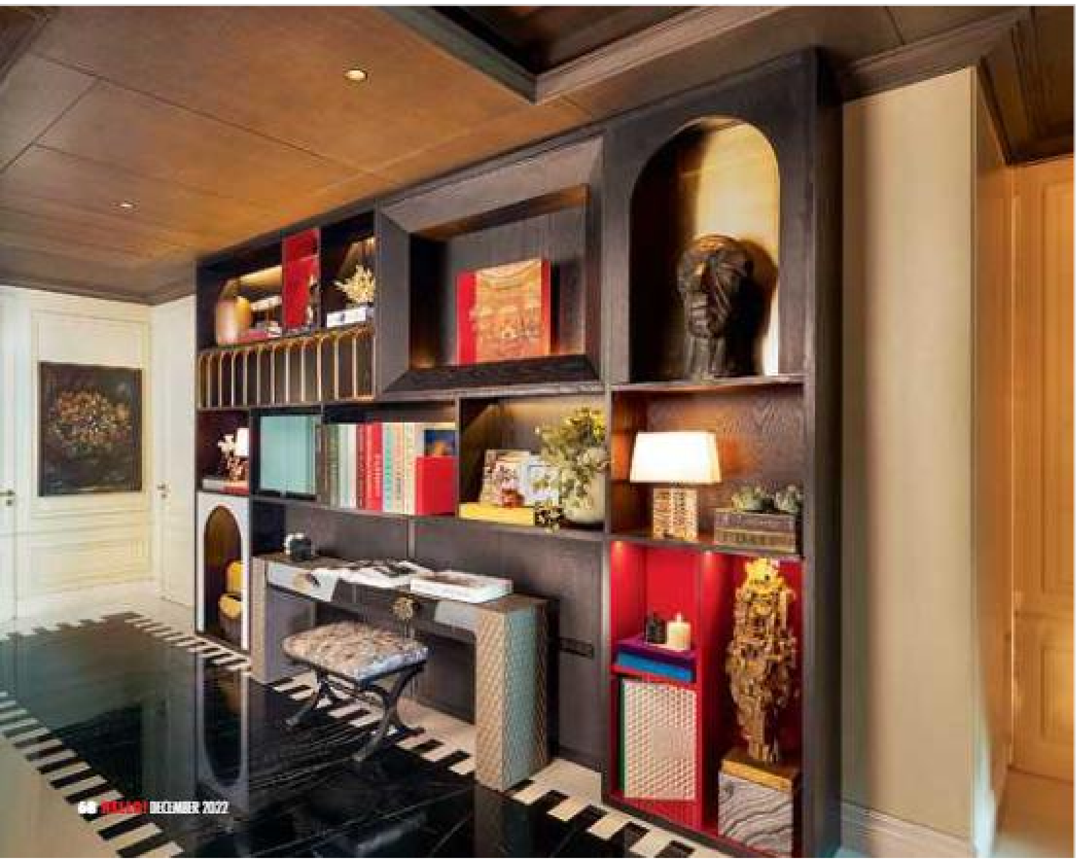
"'Minimalist' is a word we prefer to stay away



> **"'Minimalist' is a word we prefer to stay away from because we find it cold. We like our work to be simple and clean. We're definitely more classic than modern, but we like to mix the two styles to create warmth"**
> ***– Mayank Gupta***

In addition to being a weekend retreat, the couple also envisioned that the apartment would serve as one to entertain friends — their 10-seater dining table in particular. 'It's where all our dreams began,' Anuja shares. The custom-made table is a mix of high-gloss veneer and Malachite and brass inlay. A pair of Mooie lights add a subtle glow over the table, and folding shutters open up to connect to an all-white modern kitchen. 'I didn't want the kitchen to be closed off or tucked away, but to be part of our entertainment. Most of all, I wanted to be able to enjoy the views while preparing a meal,' she adds

→

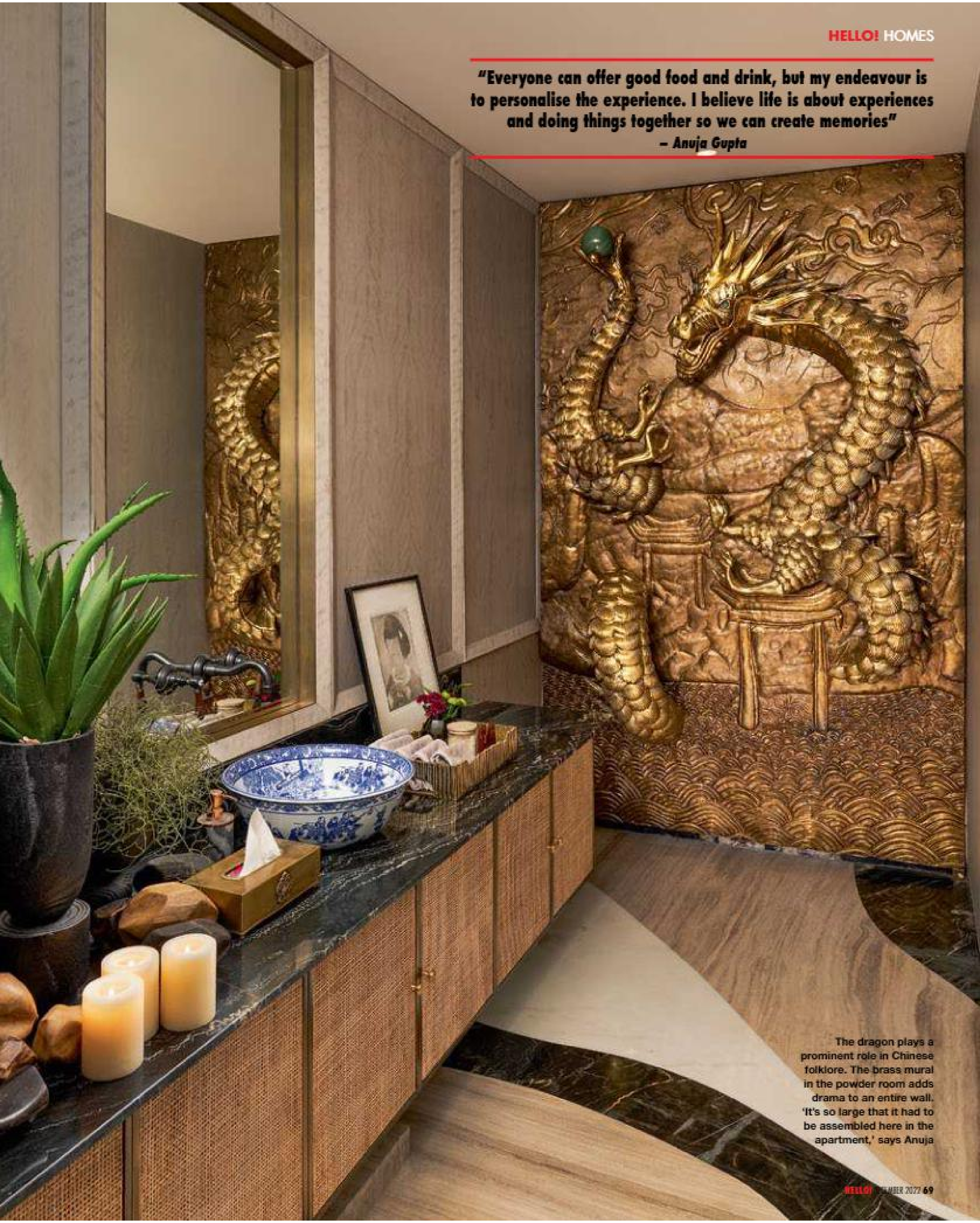


The veranda is a favourite hangout in the house, offering stunning views of the expansive DLF Golf Course. 'Very often, I find myself here with a cup of tea and my laptop,' says Anuja (above). The interiors act like a life-sized mood board of the couple's travels and personal experiences, which drive much of their work, ensuring originality and a style tailored to their clients' needs and desires. A black-and-white graphic patterned marble inlay floor meanders through the corridor to the bedrooms. Other elements like a veneer- and brass-clad bookshelf with family holiday photos, crystal table lamps to add a spot of warmth, sculptures from Himmat Shah and Rajesh Ram, and a collection of coffee-table books from Assouline breath life into the space (left)

from because we find it cold. We like our work to be simple and clean, but warm. We're definitely more classic than modern in our style, but we like to mix the two to create warmth," Mayank summarises.

As they play the perfect hosts, seated on the balcony of their apartment overlooking exquisite views of the DLF Golf and Country Club, Anuja and Mayank embody the sentiment of warmth — both through their actions and their words.

INTERVIEW: NOOR ANAND CHAWLA
PHOTOS: ASHISH CHAWLA
CREATIVE DIRECTION & STYLING: AMBER TIKARI
HAIR & MAKEUP: MICHELLE RAI OF LEVO SPALON



> **"Everyone can offer good food and drink, but my endeavour is to personalise the experience. I believe life is about experiences and doing things together so we can create memories"**
> ***– Anuja Gupta***

The dragon plays a prominent role in Chinese folklore. The brass mural in the powder room adds drama to an entire wall. 'It's so large that it had to be assembled here in the apartment,' says Anuja

POOJA ADVANI

A LUXURY ADVISOR, FASHION LOVER AND CURATOR OF ALL THINGS RITZY AND DISTINGUISHED, THE LUXURISTA SHARES HER PEARLS OF WISDOM ON THE SEASON'S GO-TO TRENDS AND MORE TO WATCH OUT FOR

Luxury to me is: All about timelessness, quality, the way something makes you feel, and how it enhances and elevates your everyday life. What it definitely is not about is just a price point.

My professional space: I'm a lover of all things fashion, with a keen appreciation for luxe accessories. I'm the founder of Luxiste, a digital space where I create content, share my style ideas and obsessions and, hopefully, inspire others to fall in love with fashion, too. 'Luxiste' is my term for someone who distinguishes on the basis of luxury. I also have a personalised luxury shopping advisory service that curates all things fashion and lifestyle for discerning shoppers — a one-stop shop for luxury gifting, sourcing and wardrobe editing needs.

"It's imperative to be aligned with a brand's values and be mindful of what they stand for. Today, more than ever, top quality must be associated with responsible sustainability"

A luxurista through and through, Pooja Advani is dressed to a tee in a sequined gown from Ellie Saab and feathered heels from Aquazzura, teamed with a bag from Bottega Veneta

→

Pooja's versatile style shines through in this ensemble. She's chic in a dress from 16 Arlington, paired with YSL shoes and earrings, and a Jacquemus bag

> **"Coco Chanel's advice, 'Before you leave the house, look in the mirror and remove one accessory,' is a good rule of thumb when you're in the 'more is more' mode!"**

Three tips on buying bespoke luxury items: Understanding the craft behind luxury items is vital when investing in expensive things. It's the skilled and exquisite craftsmanship behind a piece that assures you of its quality and longevity. Invest in classic luxury clothing that can be styled in a myriad ways and are timeless basics. Statement and trendy accessories can be seasonal indulgences. It's also imperative to be aligned with the brand's values and be mindful of what they stand for. Today, more than ever, top quality must be associated with responsible sustainability.

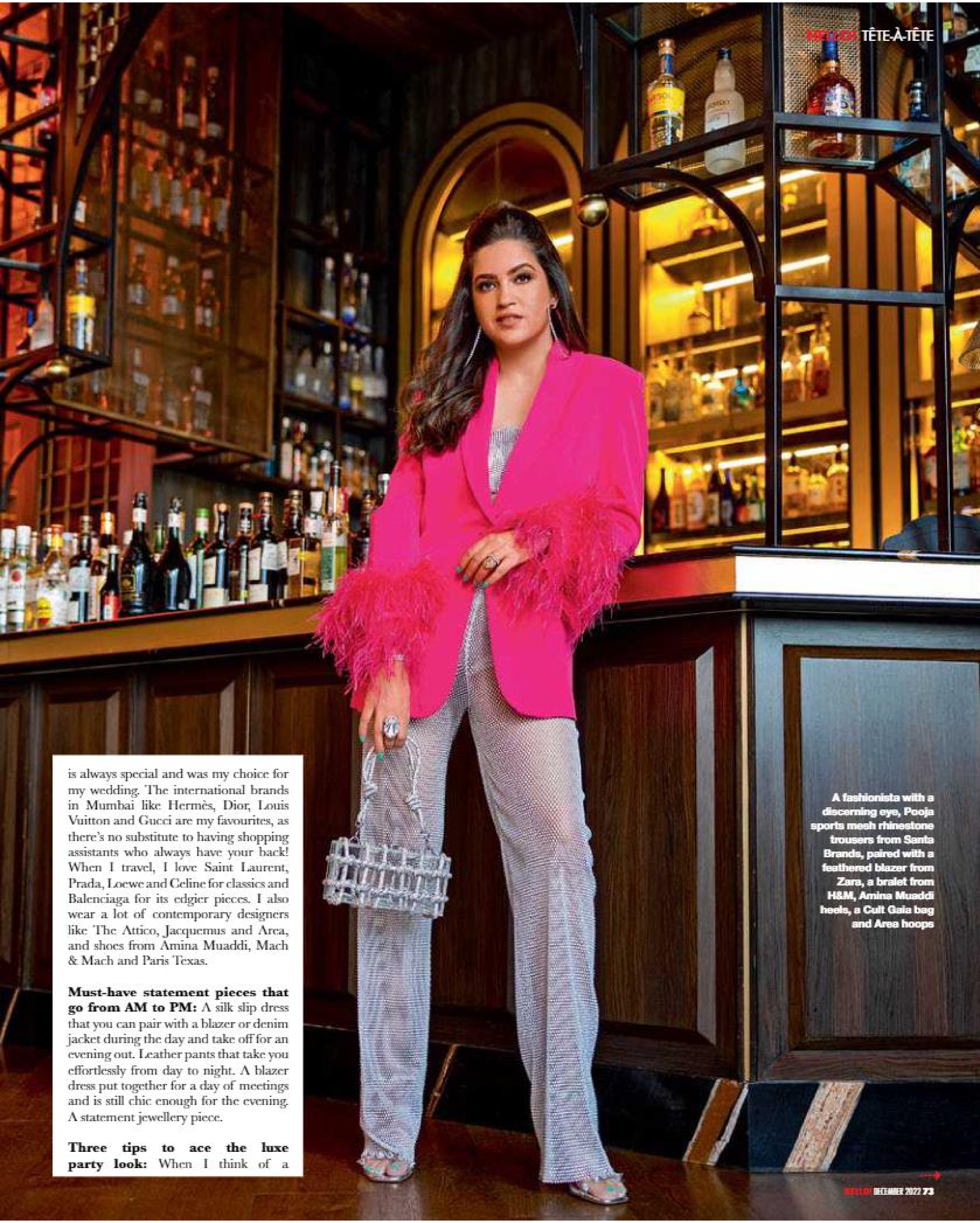
Three fashion must-haves for women: A good watch, a classic bag that goes from day to night, and a pair of chic sunglasses.

Three tips to bear in mind while selecting gifts: To ensure thoughtful and meaningful gifts, keep the recipient in mind. Always give something you are excited to present and would love to receive yourself. Packaging is as important as what's inside.

My most luxe experience: I've been blessed with luxe experiences that money can't buy. My first — and hence most special — of those was back when I was the beauty editor at a magazine. The Estée Lauder Companies was just launching their brands in India and had organised a press trip to New York. From touring their labs, to meeting and consulting with their top skin experts and being hosted by Aerin Lauder at her beautiful home, with makeup done by the brand in my hotel suite and a chauffeur waiting to take me to the dinner… It was one of my most memorable trips.

The most lavish travel destination: I visited Courchevel in France for the first time this year. It's jumped to the top of my list for a luxurious getaway. The Maldives is another one high up on the list.

My favourite fashion brands: Locally, I'm currently in love with Rahul Mishra's clothes, which are like works of art. Tarun Tahiliani is the one designer whose creations I've worn most over the years. Manish Malhotra



A fashionista with a discerning eye, Pooja sports mesh rhinestone trousers from Santa Brands, paired with a feathered blazer from Zara, a bralet from H&M, Amina Muaddi heels, a Cult Gaia bag and Area hoops

is always special and was my choice for my wedding. The international brands in Mumbai like Hermès, Dior, Louis Vuitton and Gucci are my favourites, as there's no substitute to having shopping assistants who always have your back! When I travel, I love Saint Laurent, Prada, Loewe and Celine for classics and Balenciaga for its edgier pieces. I also wear a lot of contemporary designers like The Attico, Jacquemus and Area, and shoes from Amina Muaddi, Mach & Mach and Paris Texas.

Must-have statement pieces that go from AM to PM: A silk slip dress that you can pair with a blazer or denim jacket during the day and take off for an evening out. Leather pants that take you effortlessly from day to night. A blazer dress put together for a day of meetings and is still chic enough for the evening. A statement jewellery piece.

Three tips to ace the luxe party look: When I think of a

The entrepreneur aces luxury style, posing in a dress from Nervi, accessorised with Paris Texas heels, YSL earrings and a bag from L'alingi

> **"I believe in wearing clothes and not letting the clothes wear me. My style is versatile and largely dependent on my mood and the occasion, but it's always elegant and chic"**

luxe party look, I think it's all about metallics, crystals and feathers. However, always balance the outfit, accessories and makeup. Coco Chanel's advice, "Before you leave the house, look in the mirror and remove one accessory," is a good rule of thumb when you're in the 'more is more' mode. I love using a glitter eyeliner to glam up a party look.

Hotels that embody luxury to me: The Ritz in London, Waldorf Astoria in the Maldives and the Badrutt's Palace Hotel in St. Moritz are super luxurious.

My style icons: Olivia Palermo, Blake Lively and Anne Hathaway, to name a few

My personal style: Is versatile and largely dependent on my mood and the occasion, but it's always elegant and chic. I believe in wearing clothes and not letting the clothes wear me. I love statement accessories and am obsessed with shoes!

The most stylish item in my closet: Has to be my most sentimental and meaningful piece — a diamond bracelet handed down over generations.

Best winter buys: YSL's double-breasted velvet jacket, Chanel boots and a colourful Loewe striped sweater.

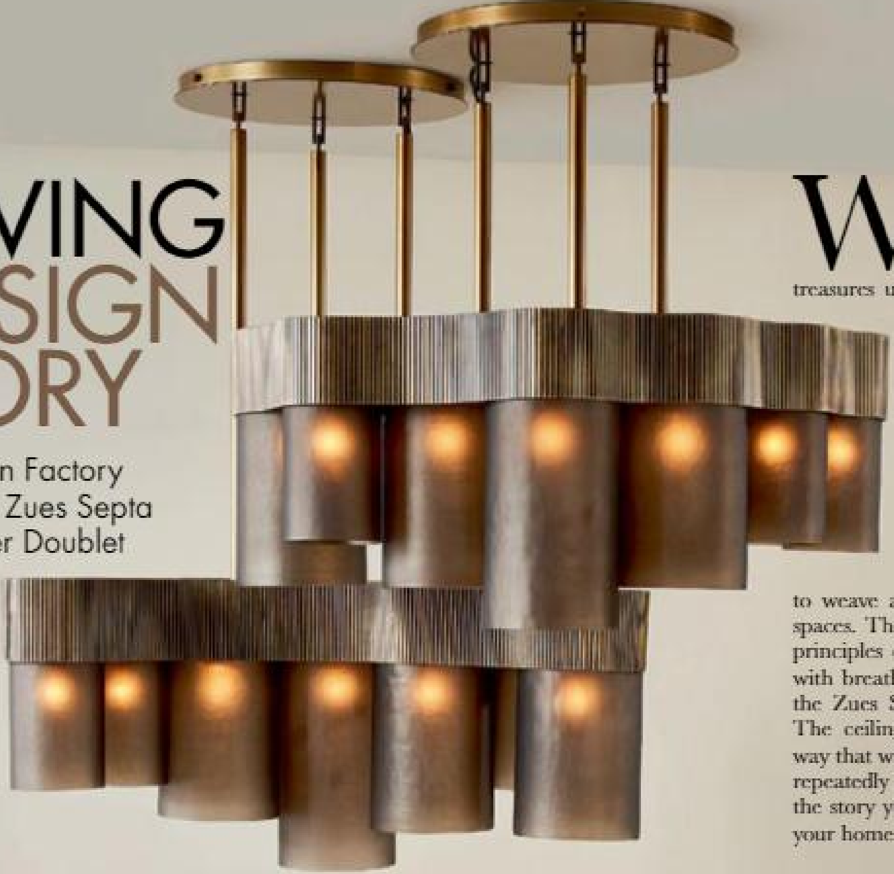
The most luxurious restaurants I've visited: I enjoy a trendy, stylish vibe at restaurants. A few of my favorites are Girafe and Gigi in Paris, Nammos in Dubai and Casa Cipriani in New York.

Favourite shopping destinations: The four fashion capitals have the best of the best. I love New York for basics and effortless clothing pieces, Paris and Milan for accessories, and London for everything in between. However, while I love to discover new brands in stores, online shopping is my go-to indulgence. Also love how Ounass in the UAE has a two-hour delivery time!

INTERVIEW: NAYARE ALI
PHOTOS: RYAN MARTIS
CREATIVE DIRECTOR:
AVANTIKKA KILACHAND
FASHION EDITOR: SONAM POLADIA
JUNIOR STYLIST: ANUSHREE SARDESAI
MAKEUP: PRIYA TODARWAL
HAIR: SARITA POOJARI
LOCATION COURTESY: KOISHII AT
THE ST. REGIS MUMBAI

WEAVING A DESIGN STORY

Renovation Factory presents the Zues Septa Chandelier Doublet

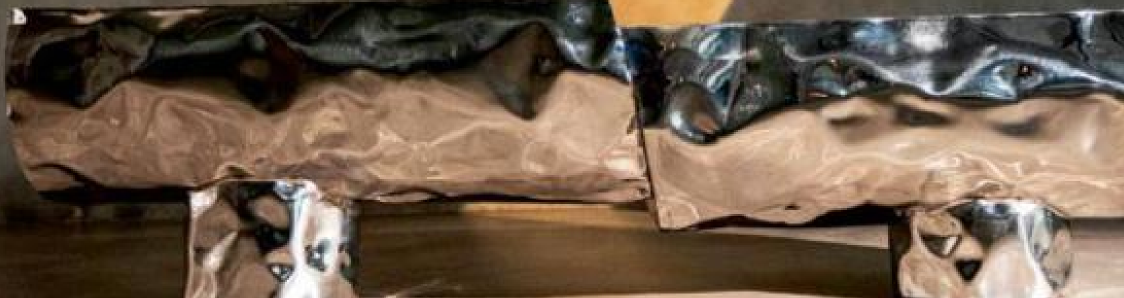


With its roots established over five decades ago, Renovation Factory creates timeless treasures using elements from nature in their design, crafting metal beautifully to give fans an experience, instead of just run-of-the-mill home décor products. Its designs are contemporary yet rooted in classics, resulting in timeless décor pieces that are suited for those who like to weave a story around their living spaces. The brand closely follows the principles of combining functionality with breathtaking luxuries — as with the Zues Septa Chandelier Doublet. The ceiling fixture is designed in a way that will allow you to customise it repeatedly to suit your space as well as the story you wish to narrate through your home.

HANDCRAFTING PERFECTION

White Domus brings you the new Tronco Bench

Draw it by hand, make it from scratch and do it together — that's the design philosophy that brothers Aroosh and Nitush Mahipal follow. This ardent commitment to handcrafting three-dimensional artwork brings to life stunning metallic designs for their brand, White Domus. The duo thinks of a home as a white canvas that gives them infinite possibilities for artistic expression — a fact that reflects in the moniker they selected for their label. 'Domus' is Latin for house, and the name literally spells out their love for transforming spaces into art installations. Take, for instance, the Tronco Bench, a metallic structure that imitates the form and all-around whimsy of a wooden log straight out of a futuristic woodland dreamscape. The bench was handcrafted to replicate the imperfect textures of wood to add a unique depth to your living space.



KARAN JOHAR & THE 'LUXE' FACTOR

STORYTELLER & VISUALISER EXTRAORDINAIRE

WHILE WE KNOW WORDS NEVER FAIL HIM, FEW HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED HIS GIFT FOR VISUAL STORYTELLING AS THE 'X' FACTOR OF HIS SUCCESS STORY. AN IMPASSIONED AESTHETE, BE IT HIS MOVIE SETS AND COSTUMES, HIS GLOBE-TROTTING WARDROBE, OR HIS HIGH-GLOSS CHAT SHOWS AND OTT WEBSERIES, KJO'S ENTIRE UNIVERSE IS AN EXPLORATION OF STYLE. HELLO! GETS CHATTING WITH THE MULTI-HYPHENATE ABOUT THE SHADOWS THAT HIT B-TOWN, WHY SOUTHERN FILMS ARE CONQUERING HEARTS, WHERE THE NEW SILVER LININGS ARE... AND MORE!

Catch all the behind the scenes action at our shoot with Karan Johar by scanning the QR code.

"I once thought, 'Who am I doing all this acting for?' Today, I'm just happy in my own skin, wearing what I like, what I relate to and love to project. You know how kids play house-house? I play Instagram-Instagram!"

→

For some people, life is a rapid-fire round. But for Karan Johar, time management and creativity go hand in hand. We watch as the multitalented film producer, writer, designer and talk show host dives right into his looks, a nod here, a twist there. And voila! From high-street to geek chic, he makes it all look like a bizarre mix of confidence and choreography — because the language of the camera is his 'dharma', one could say.

KJo is also an insatiable sybarite. His stylist of the last three or four years, Eka Lakhani, has gone on record to say, "The only challenge, honestly, is that he's more updated than I am! So I have to keep up with every new season, new launches, new trends! It's like a personal victory for me if I show him a designer or brand's new collection before he's seen it already." With Karan, we are talking three decades of reinventing mainstream culture. In the 90s, yours truly remembers bumping into his pal Manish Malhotra shopping for high-street looks at London's Oxford Street for Dharma Productions' first 'campus' film — Kuch Kuch Hota Hai. Casual global chic became the new normal for Shah Rukh Khan, Kajol and Rani Mukerji. KJo calls it "a collaborative effort". "KJo X Manish — we are like a Gucci X Addidas collab."

In this, Karan's openness to change has been a forerunner over other more conservative players. His work is always blazing new trails — like reinstating that a Bollywood wife can be a glamorous, TRP-raising entity with her highly aspirational botoxed-to-perfection profile. We all know that their flip preoccupations matter much less than that 'aspirational' quotient, which has clearly inspired another addictive Netflix series, Dubai Bling.

In this heart-to-heart chat with HELLO!, the consummate game-changer bares his colourful soul on how to be a Dharma chameleon — and enjoy the challenge!

Karan, how do you pander to your obvious desire for the best of luxury goodies? Well, more than looking at sites and influencers, I get catalogues in advance, straight out from the luxury houses, for Spring/Summer or Fall/Winter. So I'm always up to step with seasonal trends. I'm always watching fashion shows — sometimes live — of the luxe brands I love. I thoroughly enjoyed the Gucci X Adidas collaboration. I love what emerged from the Gucci-Louis Vuitton collaboration previously. I think the loss of Virgil Abloh was dreadful for the world of fashion. It was absolute genius when they went upmarket high-street with a brand like Louis Vuitton. Gucci did it in their own way with their tie-up with Adidas.

We see a lot of cameos of you on fashion websites, wearing bright sweatshirts from the Balenciaga X Gucci collab... Well, yes, but that must come to a stop now, given the controversy with Balenciaga. While I was a huge endorser of that collab, the brand's last campaign

"I think the Alessandro Michele exit, just like the Balenciaga controversy, was a sad moment in the luxury industry. Alessandro changed Gucci's whole vibe; he made it so woke and 'with it'. Louis Vuitton also lost Virgil Abloh, who I considered an artist beyond artists. But I think the old order always gives way to the new. It's the same in cinema"

Karan looks dapper in a jacket and oversized sunglasses from Gucci, printed bottoms from Huemn and accessories from Zillionare India

"Everytime I'm dressed to go out, Yash and Roohi say, 'Dada, you are looking like a clown!' I'm like, 'How dare you little trolls talk like that?' But they are my reality check!"

showing bondage accessories on teddy bears around innocent children, and then using the Supreme Court child pornography ruling as part of a campaign… It was very upsetting. Every kind of content creator or artist should communicate the right message. I hope they manage real damage control.

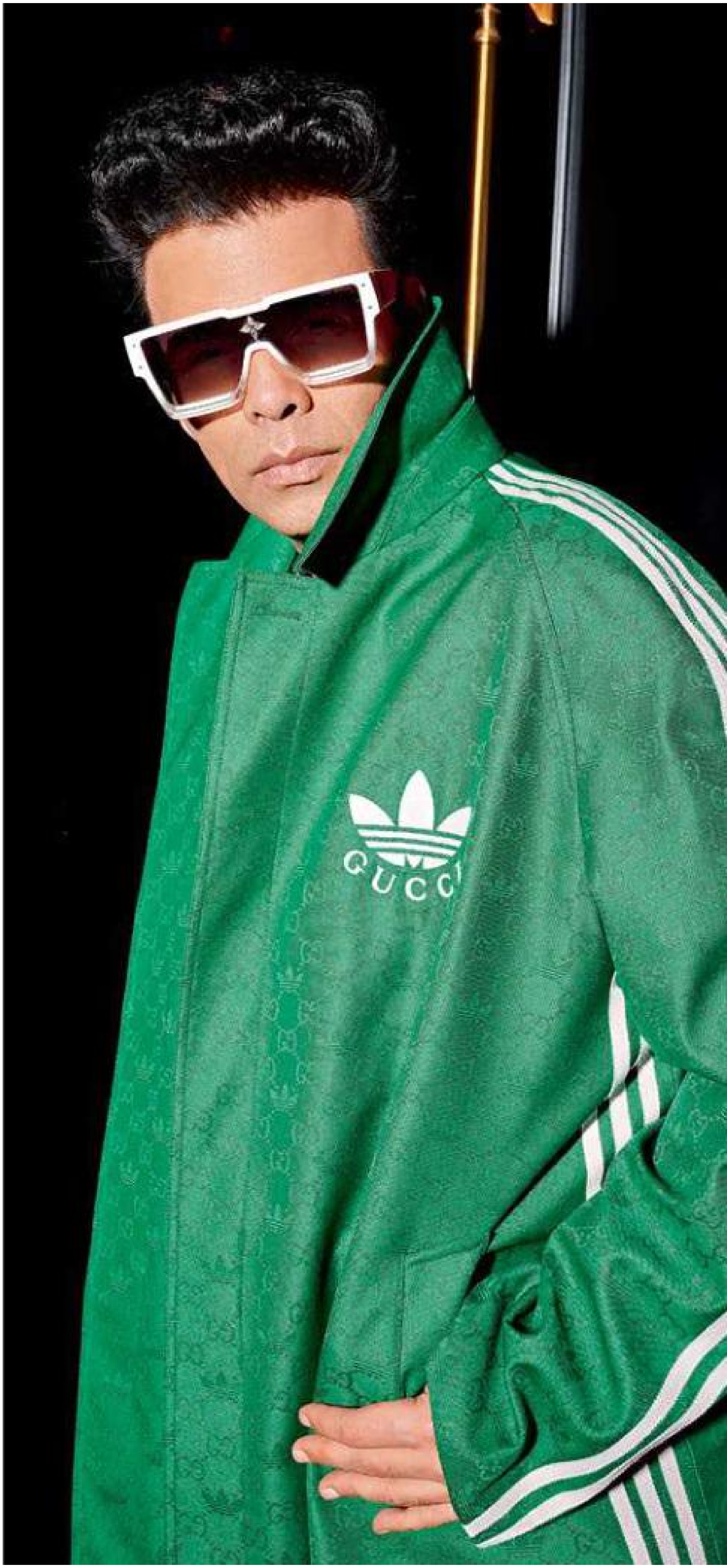
But one sees from those bright sweatshirts a man who doesn't mind bending fashion rules and just following his heart. You enjoy challenging the status quo! I love it. There was a time I was always worried about what people would think and say. But with age and a certain internal evolution, you reach a point where you need to be happy with what you wear and how you project yourself. What the world thinks is immaterial. I have come to a point where I'm not going to care about my body image issues or fashion fears! Earlier, I'd be haunted by questions like, 'Am I a filmmaker, so am I meant to walk the talk?' 'Should I pretend to be serious, choose clothes that are not jumping out and simple instead?' Then I thought, 'Who am I doing all this acting for?' I'm just happy in my own skin now, wearing what I like, what I relate to and love to project. You know how kids play house-house? I'm playing Instagram-Instagram!" (Laughs)

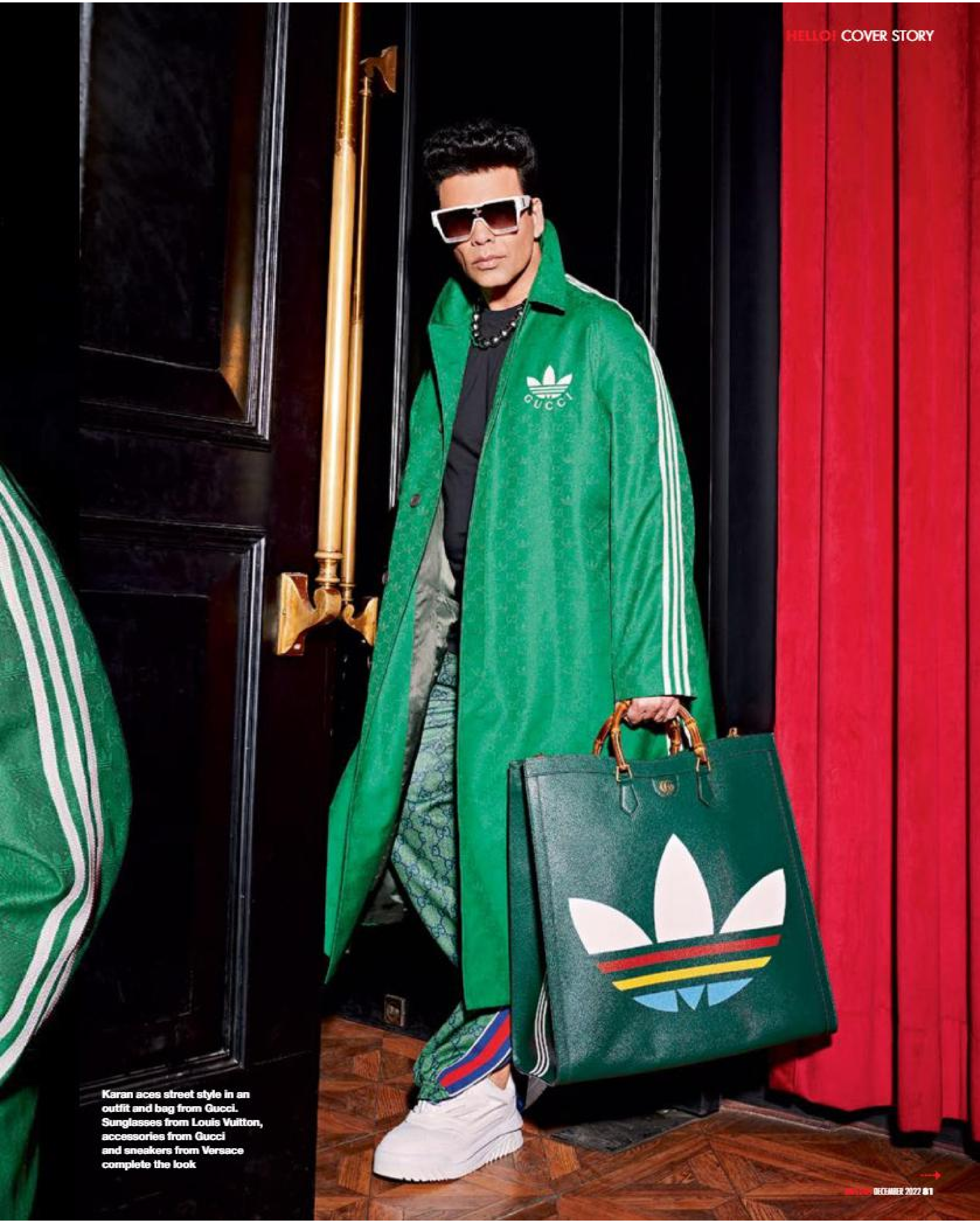
Which landmark fashion creations do you see as a 'legacy' to your kids? We believe you want them to learn a different ABCD — A for Armani, B for Balenciaga, C for Chanel, etc! I say this all in jest, of course! Not to offend people's sensibilities. But in all honesty, they haven't caught on to the fashion bandwagon because they are always laughing at what I wear! Once, when I was about to step out, they said, 'Dada, you're looking like a clown!' I was like, 'How can you speak that way with your Dada?' And at one point, they said, 'Dada, you look very boring.' So I realised I have my own in-house trolls! I don't need them on social media! Just like my mom, they ground me. The three combined are my reality check, right at home.

Would you say you are more logo-centric or more about how a garment makes you feel? It's never about the logo; it's about the garment. I'm such a big fan of Japanese and Korean designers, whose designs aren't all about their logos. Yohji Yamamoto is one of my favourite silhouettes. Similarly, there are so many Korean brands people may not have heard of, but I love wearing them. I think when I wear Gucci, it's about the vibe of that garment more than flashing the logo. It's what it makes me feel.

Now that things have opened up, what are your most prized wardrobe possessions? When the Adidas X Gucci collab collection came out, Ranveer (Singh) and I went crazy trying to acquire everything. I remember when the collection dropped, I thought, 'I WANT EVERYTHING!' I was so obsessed because two of my favourite brands had come together. Ranveer and I always DM each other images of clothes — literally sliding into DMs with clothes.

Karan, we once did a shoot with you, where we recall a vanity van loaded with bespoke branded shoes. Do you harbour a private museum collection? I have a clothes fetish, a shoe fetish, a dark glasses fetish, and fetishes in general for fashion and all fashionable things. But when it comes to shoes, something weird happened. During the pandemic, my feet went one size up! I don't know how that's possible. I was 45, and a UK size 11. And suddenly, I was size 12. So now I have to buy even more shoes because none of the





Karan aces street style in an outfit and bag from Gucci. Sunglasses from Louis Vuitton, accessories from Gucci and sneakers from Versace complete the look

→

> **"I love to integrate aesthetics, costume design, production design... These are significant parts of my universe. I really want to incorporate that sensibility into the mainstream. I have endeavoured to contribute this to pop culture whenever an opportunity has risen"**

ones I had fit anymore! It's bizarre… You can ask my stylist!

So you now have a lot of bespoke shoes to pass on… □We believe you are extremely generous sharing your luxe goodies? I have a lot of friends who visit my wardrobe to shop — and I'm happy about it! I'm not attached to garments. I wear them and enjoy them. But if someone really likes something I own, I'm happy to part with it. It's never something I'll just hold on to for dear life.

What do you see as your luxury legacy for your twins, Roohi and Yash?
Oh, they are getting nothing! It'll all go away. They make fun of my fashion sense. They don't deserve any of it!

We believe you have a full team that looks after your luxe shopping… Well, yes. My stylist Ekta is always sending me the latest stuff around. She has shoppers in London, Milan and Dubai. We also do online and WhatsApp shopping. These are my guilty pleasures. I feel there is so much stress in life. I work so hard. Shopping is one thing that takes my serotonin level to a higher, happy place!

Any custom-made luxury creations you are particularly fond of? Gucci made me an athleisure garment, in pink no less, with my name on it! This was recently. Of course, various brands customise bags, but this Gucci pink tracksuit was something I LOVE! I plan to wear it on my kids' birthday. I'm not sure what Roohi and Yash are going to say about that!

Who, in your view, are three fashion influencers you follow closely and are genuinely influenced by? Blake Lively is stunning. I think she always gets it right. I also love watching Jennifer Lopez — it's not what she wears; it's just her vibe that's absolutely cutting edge. In India, I think Anushka Sharma is stunningly fashionable — apart from, of course, Sonam and Rhea Kapoor, who were the first to embrace global looks on screen. True trendsetters.

Among the men, I always looked up to Mr Bachchan. And more recently, I feel Saif Ali Khan is immaculately turned out and understands good taste. Now, I think nobody can top maximalism like Ranveer Singh!

Have you, on any occasion, felt like a fashion victim? Oh, yes. There were many occasions when I bought the same thing twice, forgetting I already had them! So then I gift the extra, as always.

Your journey changing the look and feel of mainstream cinema has a lot to do with your soulmate in fashion styling — Manish Malhotra. How do you see this? From the beginning, when my 'campus classics' films became trendy and people found those looks fresh, Manish and I have had a wonderful collaborative connect. We did what we loved, and I do not take credit for the looks. I give full credit to Manish. You know, the colours in Kuch Kuch Hota Hai and the chic styling for Student of the Year, the fashion quotient in Kabhi Khushi Kabhie Gham… Manish really brought so much edge, and my sensibility resonates with his. It was like our own Gucci X Adidas collab. So today, yes, it looks like we created some really iconic fashion moments in cinema.

Would you describe your personal aesthetic as a maximalist rather than a minimalist, even in the clothes you yourself design? Maximalist all the way — literally maximalist AF!

These days, creativity in fashion has a lot to do with finding climate-friendly ways of manufacturing, sourcing, recycling… Yes, given the fact that there are so many climate warriors, and climate change is a great reality, I think it's up to us to make the right choices. We have gone into a full no-plastic policy in our offices and on our sets. It's all reusable. That's our starting point. I appreciate what designers like Amit Aggarwal do with recycled plastic polymers, and I hope more climb aboard and truly sustain their planet-friendly approaches.

There have been bizarre trends post-pandemic where movies go — and many feel OTT platforms are where audiences are now. This year, I think a film like Drishyam 2 will cross Rs 200 crore. As we speak, Brahmastra made Rs 250 crore, Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2 made Rs 180 crore… Yes, mindsets are changing, and certain genres didn't have box office success. I definitely believe the OTT boom will somewhere, inadvertently, help cinema because it involves the contribution of great actors and writers. So I think this will settle in time. It may take two years or so to settle, and then everything will be back to normal. I think there will be a fresh understanding that certain types of storytelling genres will be good for an OTT release, and certain spectacle-oriented movies will be more suited for theatrical releases.

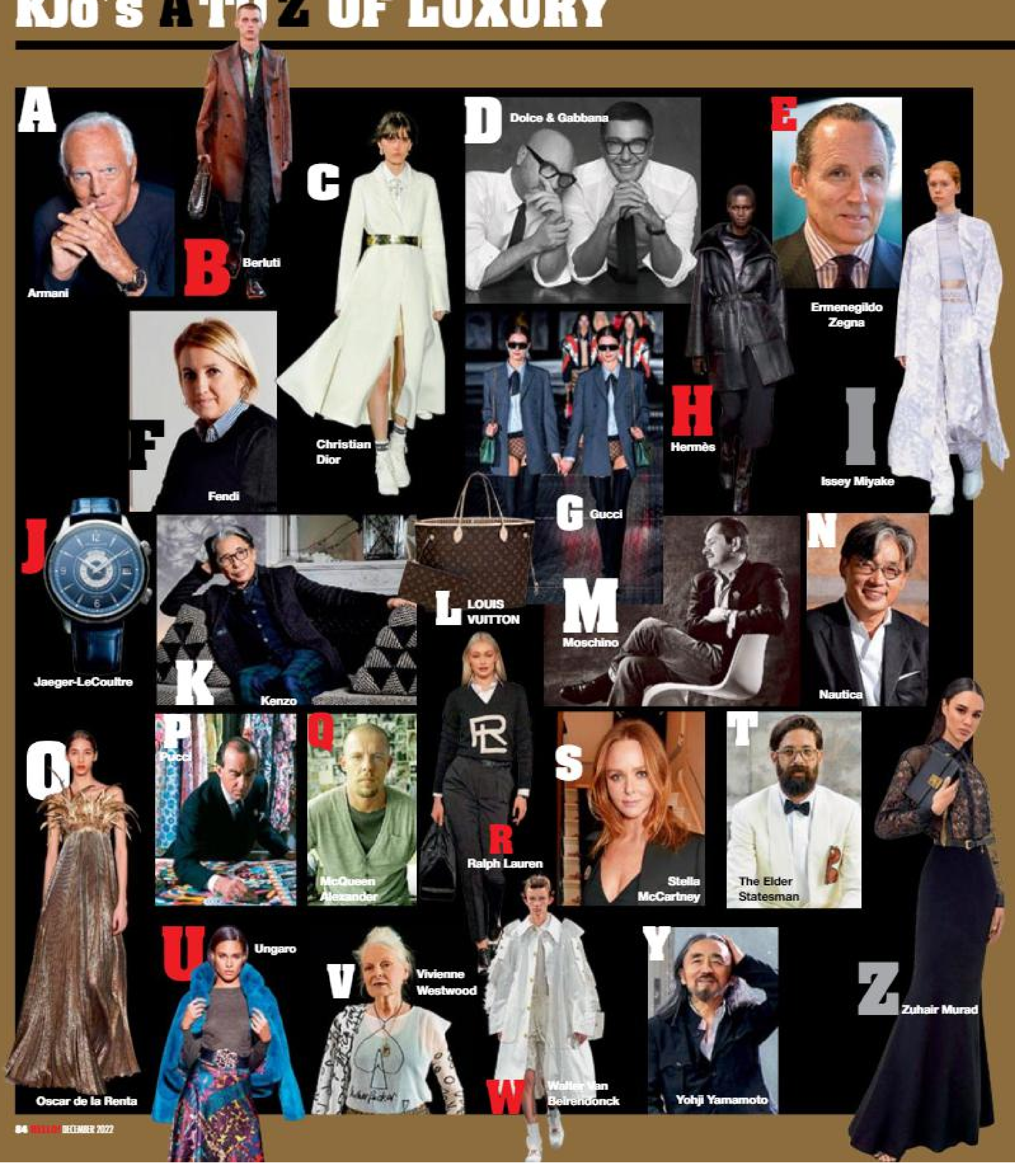
But beyond business, the whole film industry came under a massive shadow during the pandemic, with drug trafficking arrests, jail incarcerations and stars being questioned… Yes, it was terrible, and the industry went through a tough time. One thing I noticed about the Indian film industry is our level of resilience. You can attack us, bash us, for reasons that are unjustified. But eventually, true talent will always emerge, and the genuine intent of the industry — which is to entertain our audiences with an open heart — will always remain. So no matter how tough times get, we will spring back. Why are our blockbusters collecting the numbers they are? Why would people be watching OTT shows in large numbers? It's all being made by people from Bollywood, right? It was all dead noise, nameless, faceless people trying to bring down an industry that's entertained millions the world over.

You are a protean talent, given the many hats you have worn and continue to wear — TV show host, film producer-director, scriptwriter, party host, reality TV judge, talent discovery man and mentor… Yes, I'm a great change warrior. I believe in change and that you have to adapt on a daily basis. Change doesn't scare me; it challenges me. Firstly, you can't be living in a bubble. I think many people tend to do that. You get so self-absorbed with your own success or failure that

Karan sports a printed puffer jacket from Dolce & Gabbana with sunglasses from Louis Vuitton

→

KJo's A TO Z OF LUXURY


A
Armani
B
Berluti
C
Christian Dior
D
Dolce & Gabbana
E
Ermenegildo Zegna
F
Fendi
G
Gucci
H
Hermès
I
Issey Miyake
J
Jaeger-LeCoultre
K
Kenzo
L
LOUIS VUITTON
M
Moschino
N
Nautica
O
Oscar de la Renta
P
Pucci
Q
McQueen Alexander
R
Ralph Lauren
S
Stella McCartney
T
The Elder Statesman
U
Ungaro
V
Vivienne Westwood
W
Walter Van Beirendonck
Y
Yohji Yamamoto
Z
Zuhair Murad

you can't look beyond it. And I'm like, 'There's a world beyond you!' This is most critical to any artist. If I have given one hit film and I obsess about only that for an entire year, I have already lost touch with what's happening around me. I always say deal with success the way you deal with failure. You can't let it fester, or rest on your laurels. Won an award? Clap for yourself and move on. Lost an award? Clap for others and move on!

Films from the south have captivated audiences. Whether it was RRR or more recently Kantara… How do you interpret this trend? Their films are great. They have something that I feel our industry lacks — core conviction. We tend to have a slight herd mentality. Filmmakers in the south are not looking over their shoulder to see what critics say or what social media says, which stars are 'saleable' — they don't care. That conviction jumps right out of the screen and touches people in a way that's primal, conscious and rich.

People envy your equation with the stars, the power you stand for. In fact, some memes have actors joking they won't help raise your TRPs by coming on the show! So I only bring up what's already in the public domain. If a star has shared something as a secret with me, in utmost confidence, there's no way I'd bring that up. But if it's written about, being talked about, I will. And even if they deny it, unlike other show hosts, I can still get away by saying 'Hey, you're lying!' The fact that we work in the same industry, and that I know them personally helps! It's a different level of connect.

INTERVIEW: SANGEETA WADDHWANI
PHOTOS: VAISHNAV PRAVEEN, HOUSE OF PIXELS
STYLING: EKA LAKHANI
CREATIVE DIRECTOR: AVANTIKKA KILACHAND
FASHION EDITOR: SONAM POLADIA
JUNIOR STYLIST: ANUSHREE SARDESAI
HAIR: DARSHAN YEWALEKAR
MAKEUP: PARESH KALGUTKAR
LOCATION COURTESY: TOYROOM MUMBAI, GRAND HYATT HOTEL
MANAGED BY: LENN S

> **"Nobody can top maximalism more than Ranveer Singh! He and I always DM each other images of clothes – literally sliding into each other's DMs with clothes"**

Karan wears an outfit from Kaushik Velendra with sunglasses from Tom Ford. Gloves from Copper Mallet add an edge to the look.

RMZ Corp.'s philosophy is to develop business hubs that are environmentally sustainable and responsive to global concerns and yet address the essential needs of the business community

THE FACE OF THE FUTURE

What does luxury mean to you? It is the comfort of knowing that the generations to come may live in a world where they can enjoy the many wonders nature has to offer.

Sustainability helps RMZ to institutionalize, establish principles and best practices across the value chain and organization

That they can live safely in a world protected from climatic changes, rising temperatures and sea water levels. In a world that is a crucible for both, nature and technology. Where their lives are made convenient by technology, even as they live in harmony with nature. But for that future to become this reality, one needs to act today. Think today, while being mindful of actions and intents. One needs to follow a lifestyle that enables an enjoyment of the world and its offerings while saving it for posterity.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING IS THE KEY

In 2016, the UN issued its Sustainable Global Development (SGD) report. Ever since, driving towards net zero has moved up on India's real estate priority list. RMZ Corp, Asia's largest private owners, investors and developers, have envisioned their massive transformative purpose: to imagine, create and transform for the future. In pursuit of this vision the company has been incorporating ESG (environment, social and governance) models that provide long-term value to both the business ecosystem as well as to future generations.

Sustainability principles are thus at the heart of all operations at RMZ Corp. To escalate its ecological and social performance and to integrate sustainability initiatives into its organisational procedures, culture and strategy, RMZ has commenced on a clearly paved sustainability transformation path. RMZ's assets are committed to energy-efficient design, and in the public realm, the company is dedicated to creating enriching social experiences and communities. The environmental impact of operational assets, such as energy, water and waste, is meticulously measured, and clear goals are being set to achieve Net Zero Carbon Emissions.

EARLY GREEN JOURNEY

RMZ's green journey began in 2002. Their Sustainable Procurement Policy displays their commitment

With sustainable architecture and green buildings in focus, RMZ Corp. commits to creating future-ready spaces

The concept of biophilia – the innate human desire for a connection with nature – translates easily to the world of architecture, and it is changing how RMZ Corp. looks at building design and breaks the monotonous feel of office lobbies

RMZ has aligned sustainability strategy to translate global needs and ambitions into business solutions

to sourcing raw materials that have minimal environmental impact. Energy and water consumption, indoor environmental quality, material selection and location are all considered when creating sustainable and green buildings. This facilitates alternative mobility, promotes the preservation and growth of green spaces and rooftops, and digitises administrative and business processes. It also minimises waste in landfills. The corporation takes a holistic approach by planning with efficiency, executing with the judicious use of resources, and managing assets through efficient operation. Thereby the company integrates sustainable practices at every stage.

A trailblazer in the space of sustainable real estate, RMZ Corp celebrated a major milestone in 2018, having developed the largest portfolio of properties certified under LEED Arc . It is also the only Indian development project to win the ULI Asia Pacific Awards for Excellence 2020 and the first company in the world to receive a WELL Health-Safety Rating for Facility Operations and Management. By pledging support to the First Mover's Coalition, RMZ has increased the effectiveness of their efforts to lower Scope 3 emission levels. RMZ Corp will commit to purchasing/ensuring/specifying at least 10% (by volume) of its cement/concrete per year as near-zero cement/concrete inclusive of any SCM by 2030 and excluding fossil-based SCMs by 2035.

ZERO EMISSIONS BY 2035

RMZ's current goal is to achieve net zero emissions by 2035, which is consistent with the Paris Agreement and COP26. In the coming years, RMZ will sign the Net Zero Pledge with science-based targets to support its efforts. The conventional power grid contributes to about 92% of RMZ's total energy consumption. By investing in innovative technologies, RMZ anticipates a much larger scope for minimizing and replacing conventional grid electricity since other than solar energy, there is scarcity for all energies; and a concurrent need to mitigate environmental impact whilst providing comfort to all. By promoting an energy-saving mindset among employees and customers, the company hopes to bring about a cultural – and might one say – environmental revolution in the workplace, setting the tone for a brighter, wholesome future.

LUXURY, THE INDIAN WAY

HELLO! brings you 10 of the most extravagant brands from India that offer opulence on a plate to woo the uber-rich

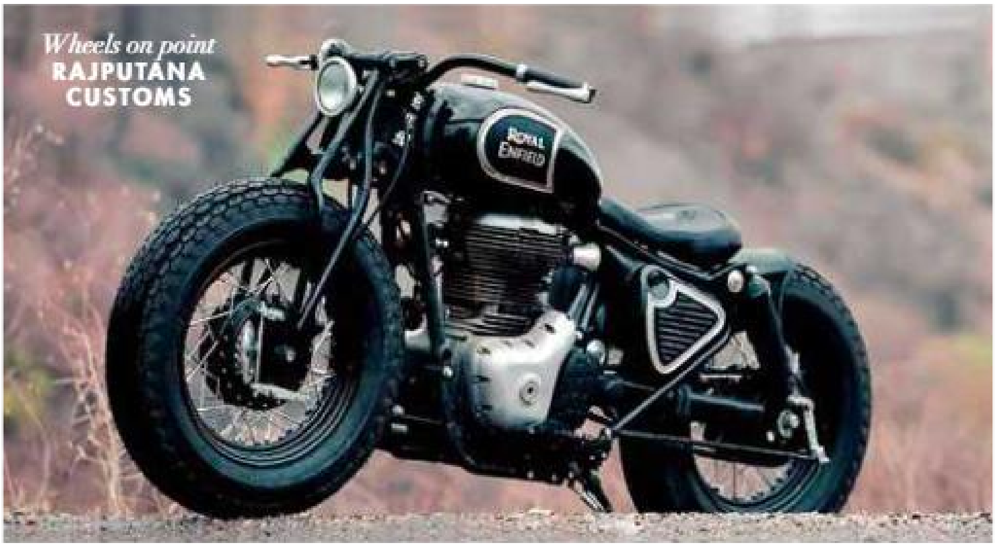
Live like a royal

TAJ PALACE HOTELS

Spread across India, Taj Hotels' palace properties have become a honeytrap for tourists from across the world. Elevating luxury to a whole new level, the group painstakingly renovated, refurbished and, in some cases, resurrected centuries-old palaces and forts to create a luxe experience that can truly be called royal. From Rambagh Palace in Jaipur, once the home of Jaipur's maharanis, to the famed Lake Palace in Udaipur, acclaimed for being the backdrop of Bond flick *Octopussy*, as well as Umaid Bhavan in Jodhpur, where events like Liz Hurley and Piryanka Chopra's weddings and Nita Ambani's birthday have been held, these palaces have withstood the test of time and evolved into their new avatars as temporary abodes to those who can afford their equally stellar room rates. The Falaknuma Palace in Hyderabad deserves a special mention, possibly the brightest star in the Taj portfolio, once home to the Nizam himself!

Wheels on point

RAJPUTANA CUSTOMS



When it comes to luxury bikes, one thinks of names such as Ducati, Benelli and BMW. But for Rajputana Customs, breaking that mindset for an Indian and international audience became an obsession. Based in Jaipur and founded by Vijay Singh Ajairajpura, Rajputana Customs creates bespoke motorcycles for select clients looking to drive a machine that's truly different from the other bikes roaming the roads. Their feminine lines are inspired by Rajasthani aesthetics and everything else their founder fancies, resulting in machines that are often described as the Indian Harley. Several Indian celebrities own these specially made motorcycles, though the brand prefers to keep a low profile, letting their art speak for itself rather than their famous clientele.

Veritable weaves

OBEETEE CARPETS

Over a century old, Obeetee — founded by three British gents, Oakley, Bowden and Taylor — has been producing handwoven rugs that have been laid down in palaces, forts and the homes of presidents and kings the world over. Over the years, the brand has collaborated with a number of designers, including Tarun Tahiliani, Abraham & Thakore, Raghavendra Rathore and Shantnu & Nikhil. Using the same techniques as artisans who moved to India from Persia for the Mughal court, Obeetee prides itself with employing artisans who are fifth-generation descendents of the men and women who once wove carpets for India's maharajas and emperors. Their products today, especially those for which the brand collaborates with designers, are truly breathtaking and in a league of their own.

Wardrobe essentials

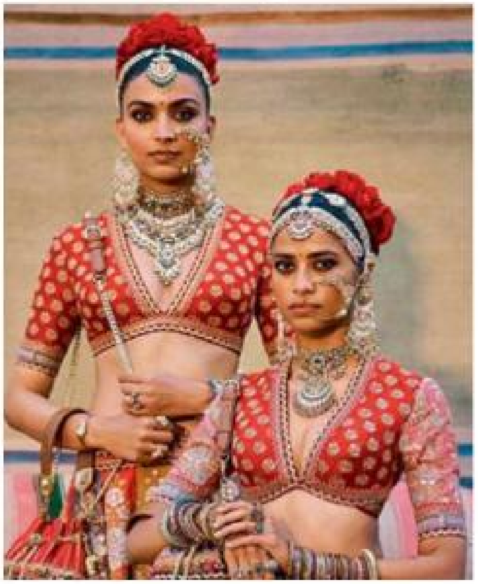
ABU JANI & SANDEEP KHOSLA

No true luxe list would be complete without the mention of India's original czars of luxury, Abu Jani and Sandeep Khosla. Known for the patronage they enjoy from their famous clientele, the duo has become a worldwide brand, resurrecting Indian design from bygone eras and creating outfits using only the finest materials — be it gold, mother of pearl, or even semi-precious stones. Today, AJSK have spread their wings with stores in every major Indian city and buyers who include such supernovas as Dame Judy Dench and Amitabh Bachchan. The brand's foray into interiors, lifestyle and a host of other design-related fields only proves the versatility it's capable of dishing out, keeping it relevant several decades since its formation.

The face of Indian luxury

SABYASACHI

Kolkata's answer to Oscar de la Renta, Sabyasachi has changed the way Indian bridal wear is viewed around the world. Having delved into classical Indian design and brought craftsmanship, textile, embroidery and embellishment to the forefront of fashion, couturier Sabyasachi Mukherjee is lauded the world over for his versatility. He has also received international acclaim as one of the only few Indian designers to ever have taken part in both the New York and Milan fashion weeks. Having branched out into jewellery and interiors, as well, Sabyasachi is in many ways a design maven whose creativity leaps out into spheres he deems worthy of his attention in that moment. A new store in New York has only added to the designer's repertoire, making him India's ambassador of luxury to the world.



Woven in heritage

JANAVI INDIA

The brainchild of Jyotika Jhalani, Janavi uses Kashmir's artisanry to create cashmere products coveted by celebrities the world over. Shawls, stoles and scarves made from the finest cashmere grace their racks, which are as far spread as Bergdorf Goodman. Reviving a dying industry, one that was being taken over by the West at one point, Janavi brought home the ancient art of cashmere weaving, providing products relevant to a modern-day luxe customer.

Bling it on

DIACOLOR

The Delhi-based jeweller with flagship stores at the Taj Mahal Palace Mumbai, Rambagh Palace, Jaipur, and the Almas Tower in Dubai, Diacolor is slowly becoming one of India's most formidable jewellery brands. A creation of Rishabh Tongya, the label has also entered the realm of procuring only sustainable and responsibly sourced gemstones, a giant leap for any jewellery manufacturer in India, which has otherwise been known to be part of an industry unaware of this rising need. Tongya has a rich legacy in jewellery, growing up in a family where rough stones were sometimes misconstrued as paperweights, and children were brought up to differentiate and sift through stones based on colour, clarity and weight. Diacolor's creations are an amalgamation of the old and the new, with designs taking inspiration from India's regal past and cutting-edge international trends.

Luxury begins at home

SARITA HANDA HOME DÉCOR

On a growing spree today, Sarita Handa is one more Delhi entrepreneur whose rise to fame and fortune started with a small store in the capital. Redefining age-old techniques of craftsmanship and design and re-introducing certain textiles into her wares, Handa has become a name synonymous with the luxury interiors space today. Rich fabrics, use of embroidery to embellish even the simplest items and designs that make any space stand out have become the mainstays of the brand. Her success lies in marrying contemporary aesthetics with ancient traditions rooted in heritage, in many ways keeping Indian art and design alive and breathing in the homes of our country's high and mighty.

Hospitality at its best

OBEROI VILAS HOTELS

When Prithviraj Singh Oberoi — or Biki as he was called by those close to him — saw that his competitors had taken away most of the country's original palaces and turned them into hotels, he decided to build his own. Today, the Oberoi Vilas hotels are equally, if not more, luxurious than the other palace hotels in India, redefining luxury in hospitality, service and product. Located in India's heritage hotspots, the hotels have become akin to sponges, taking in the culture and history of their surroundings and presenting their centuries-old heritage to their patrons in a modern avatar. The Oberoi Rajvilas in Jaipur, Udaivilas in Udaipur, Amarvilas in Agra and Sukhvilas in Chandigarh are just some of the palatial properties transformed by the group, keeping in mind an international market for the palace experience in India. Having won several accolades and awards over the years, the Oberoi Vilas hotels are truly some of India's finest hospitality offerings today.

For all your décor needs

GOOD EARTH

The brainchild of Anita Lal, Good Earth has redefined handcrafted luxury in many ways and brought to the fore several artisanal brands that would have otherwise wilted away with time. In its 25th year now, the chain has morphed from its small beginnings into a nationwide conglomerate, providing everything from luxe cushion covers and bed linen to ethically sourced candles, art, textiles, dinnerware and furniture, among several other offerings that have become favourites of the brand's fan following across the world. Speaking of which, Good Earth now retails at Smithsonian's National Museum of Asian Art at Washington DC, where its products are being showcased as part of the museum's centennial celebrations, making it the first Indian design house to achieve this feat. Always looking at nouvelle ways of evolving their concept, Anita and daughter Simran have come up with a handful of other complementary brands that have naturally assimilated under the Good Earth umbrella to cater to a wider audience.

TEXT: VISHWAVEER SINGH

TRAVEL IN STYLE

Your chic holiday wardrobe calls for stylish gear as your travel partner. Nappa Dori's new line of luxury leather goods has you covered for your next adventure

With temperatures dipping countrywide, it's the perfect time to plan a winter getaway to your favourite exotic destination. Whether it's the nearest beach or a list of galleries and museums you've bookmarked, you'd need trusty travel gear to make your visits seamless as well as stylish. Luckily, Nappa Dori has the perfect answer for both you and your travel plans.

Over the past decade, Nappa Dori has cemented its reputation in the market with beautiful, handcrafted luxury leather goods. Now, the Delhi-based brand has come up with a new collection of leather travel companions that are perfect for your overnight adventures as well as week-long sojourns across the world.

True to the label's characteristic style, the luggage is gloriously vintage in design, yet offers modern features and functionalities. The best part? The lightweight and sturdy kits come in three variants, so you can pick the one that suits your travel style best.

If you're planning a quick getaway, say a weekend in a mountain cabin amid nature, we'd recommend the Steamer. The compact exterior belies its voluminous capacity, which comes equipped with handwoven *ikat* compartments that allow for additional storage. Once again, the vintage design is contrasted with cutting-edge features like 360-degree spinner wheels — the lack of which is a deal-breakser for many — and a three-stage telescopic handle.

The Aviator, the second variant, is the perfect size to stow away in the overhead cabin. The hard-shelled exterior makes it durable and safe for your fragile accessories. So can rest assured even with your laptop in this one.

The final one in this series is the Trucker. Big brother to the Aviator, this one can house all your 'what if' wardrobe choices in its cavernous interiors. The suitcase is designed with a metal frame that can survive being lugged around on your vacation, and the combination locks will keep your precious belongings safe and secure.

We can't speak for you, but we sure are geared up for our next adventure!

TEXT: SALVA MUBARAK

The Fashion House

BRAND: HERMÈS

While most people get to reward themselves with designer paraphernalia, few have the actual privilege of splurging in an Hermès store. This, folks, isn't affordable fashion. Not by a mile! With just their document holders costing nearly Rs 8.5 lakh, the big league indeed, status-symbol Birkins not only have years-long waiting lists, but cost as much as small apartments. The prestige and luxury that comes with a brand like Hermès continues to grow strong, making them one of the most expensive and in-demand in the glittery world of fashion.

The Hotel

BRAND: THE RITZ-CARLTON

No one does luxury stays quite like The Ritz-Carlton chain of hotels. Its Swiss founder, César Ritz, was known as the king of hoteliers and the hotelier to kings. With this standard still engraved in the brand's DNA, a century later, its 108 properties in prime locations across the globe boast the best in luxury that comes with a tag of around Rs 21.5 lakh per night if you're reserving their best suite!

NO ONE DOES LUXURY BETTER

HELLO! lists 10 of the most luxurious brands in the world, accessible to those with discerning taste — and some seriously deep pockets

The Watch

BRAND: PATEK PHILIPPE

One of the first things a person notices is the watch you wear. While having a good one is a nod to luxury, having a Patek clapped around your wrist is a game-changer. This brand automatically lets people know you've made the big bucks, given that the price tag for one of these timepieces is staggering, to say the least — these watches cost upwards of Rs 10 lakh and can go up to several crores for the most exclusive ones. As the last independent, family-owned watch manufacturer in Geneva, each piece is a work of art, with true finesse and sophistication in how they've meticulously been crafted, as can only be expected from the Swiss.

The Car

BRAND: ROLLS-ROYCE

There are cars, and then there's Rolls-Royce. The gold standard of luxury in the automobile world, the brand has held the title since the early 1900s. Plush, seemingly palatial interiors fit for royalty (literally) and ultra-slick engineering, a Rolls-Royce will, at the blink of an eye, set you back over Rs 8 crore for starters and can run up to over Rs 10 crore. And given that they recently launched their first ultra-luxury electric super coupe — aptly named Spectre — the brand has already stepped into the future of luxury for the next generation of billionaires to enjoy.

The Jewellery

BRAND: BULGARI

This luxury brand really doesn't need an introduction. Whether it's their handbags, eyewear or jewellery, their exquisite creations are loved by all who have the good fortune of being able to afford them. Celebrating Italian glamour and opulence, Bulgari jewellery is unmistakable — be it their their famed coiled Serpenti collection (synonymous with the house since 1940) and necklaces costing anywhere between Rs 38 lakh and over a crore, or their bright, vibrant (and rather sizeable) gemstones that make up some of the most beautiful pieces ever seen.

The Shoes

BRAND: CHRISTIAN LOUBOUTIN

If there was ever a cult status symbol, it was and continues to be the red sole of a Christian Louboutin shoe. Emblematic of wealth, style and, of course, taste, the brand uses the very best materials and master craftsmanship to produce these beloved shoes. Often studded with Swarovski crystals, or made with exotic materials that can also be customised, lovers of fashion (worldwide celebrities included) don't mind spending a couple of lakhs for their feet to be enveloped in this spot-from-a-mile-away shoes.

The Furnishing

BRAND: FENDI CASA

The Italian house is now as celebrated for their home décor ranges as they are for their fashion — and with good reason. Tailor-made to perfection and using the finest materials, couped with other-worldly craftsmanship, luxury with a modern feel is what you get when you lay down those banknotes for a Casa Fendi home. So chic and coveted is this brand that even the interiors of superyachts and private jets are furnished with their upholstery, lighting and furniture.

The Scotch

BRAND: THE DALMORE

Not the stuff you swig at your local watering hole during happy hour. The Dalmore produces a wide range of some of the best scotch known to man, breaking several price records in recent years (including The Dalmore 62 that sold at an auction for almost Rs 2.5 crore!). Perfected and aged like no other alcohol, this Scottish liquid gold belongs in the dens of only the poshest folk — and is usually found there, considering these bottles cripple bank accounts with ease.

The Fragrance

BRAND: ROJA

Roja parfums, helmed by British master perfumer Roja Dove, is one of the world's most luxurious fragrance houses. Working with only the finest materials (think Rose de Mai, Jasmine de Grasse and natural Ambergris), Dove once claimed to spend 10 times the price of gold for ingredients. Some of its fragrance boxes are silk-lined and crystal-encrusted, and boast 24-karat gold-coated caps, explaining the hefty price tags (Roja's By Appointment — just a single bottle of which was made a few years ago — would have set a person back Rs 73.5 lakh). And while many its scents aren't as eye-wateringly expensive, a bottle would still cost a cool Rs 20,000+, just to start.

The Cigar

BRAND: COHIBA

Lighting up a cigar is regarded as a rite of passage for life's special moments. A son gets one from his father when coming of age, securing that corner office at the firm, the birth of a first child… And the best kind is arguably Cohiba, the Cuban thoroughbred that every tobacco enthusiast will vouch for rather emphatically. Much like fine wine, there are distinctive attributes that separate a good cigar from a fantastic one — the kind of tobacco, infusion of flavour, size, shape and wrapper — and this brand is among the most venerated premium ones in the market.

TEXT: JEENA J BILLIMORIA

RP - Sanjiv Goenka
Group

MANY ILLUSTRIOUS ICONS.
ONE ICONIC EVENING.

Celebrating outstanding achievements in diverse fields.

JEWELLERY PARTNER
1870
KISHANDAS
& CO.
HERITAGE
HYDERABAD

CELEBRATION PARTNER
Glenfiddich.
SKILFULLY CRAFTED. ENJOY RESPONSIBLY.

HOSPITALITY PARTNER
TAJ
KRISHNA
HYDERABAD

DECOR PARTNER
casafleur

GIFTING PARTHER
SAREGAMA
CARVAAN

HELLO! HALL OF FAME
SOUTH

ASSOCIATE PARTNERS

OBEETEE CARPETS

ONEPLUS

THE FIRST EDITION OF
HELLO! HALL OF FAME
SOUTH AWARDS

TUESDAY, 24TH JANUARY 2023

BY INVITATION ONLY

Farhana Bodi

This popular influencer from Dubai embodies all things luxe. From haute couture to opulent holidays and hotels, she's living the best life — with a Netflix show to her name, too! Farhana Bodi gets candid with HELLO! about her love for high living

Identified as one of Dubai's most glamourous social media personalities, Farhana Bodi is the queen of couture. Boasting over 2 million Instagram followers, she's always spotted in ultra-luxe brands that make for an enviable wardrobe. Now, Farhana also has a Netflix reality show to her name, *Dubai Bling*, which showcases the best of her lifestyle as a single working mum and the founder of I Woman of the World, a firm aimed at empowering women. HELLO! gets Farhana talking about her favourites in the world of luxury and more!

Luxury to me is: About values, high quality and a certain timelessness that outlives passing trends.

My most luxe experience: It was a trip on one of the top private jets of the Comlux Group. I flew from Dubai to Europe, and the experience was so luxurious! The crew provided outstanding guest service, the food was amazing, and the whole experience was just next-level luxury.

My professional space: I'm a social media personality-turned-businesswoman and a reality TV star. I work with and promote luxury and lifestyle brands on my social media channels. I am also a partner in a crypto project called GoldPesa, where I am the director of marketing. I also have a platform called I Woman of the World, where I support and feature women and women-led startups and brands.

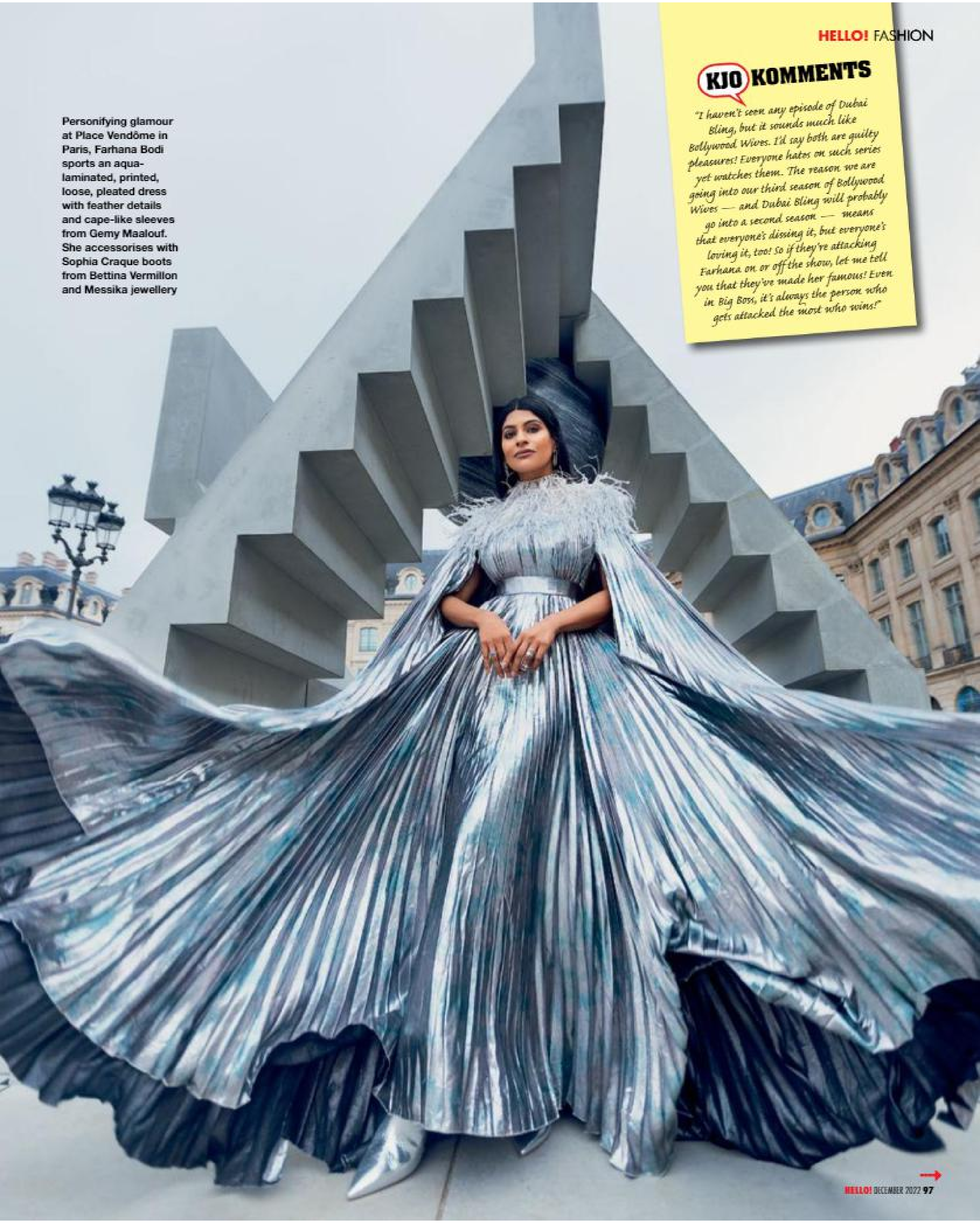
The response to *Dubai Bling*: I'm so thrilled with all the positive reactions and feedback from everyone from around the world. The show is trending in India, too, which is something to be really proud of. The experience was amazing. I got to share the screen with my son, and there's no better feeling than that.

The most luxurious travel destinations: Everything about Dubai is luxurious. From the cars and hotels to the skyscrapers and shopping malls. I also love Capri, Paris, Monaco and Istanbul. From luxe shopping haunts to super luxury hotels, from Michelin-starred restaurants to beautiful yachts (in Monaco), these are the ideal hotspots for high-end vacations.

My favourite brands: I love Prada and Versace for their clothing. For home décor and accessories, there's Chanel, Fendi, Hermès and Miu Miu.

Best winter buys: Prada's black leather long boots! I invest in these boots every season. They are high-quality, versatile and the perfect accessory to build different looks.

Hotels that embody luxury to me:
1. One feels like a royal at the Ritz Paris. It has a special place in my heart. Everything about it is magnificent. Lady Diana used to stay there.
2. Last January, I celebrated my birthday in the royal ballroom of Raffles The Palm Dubai. The

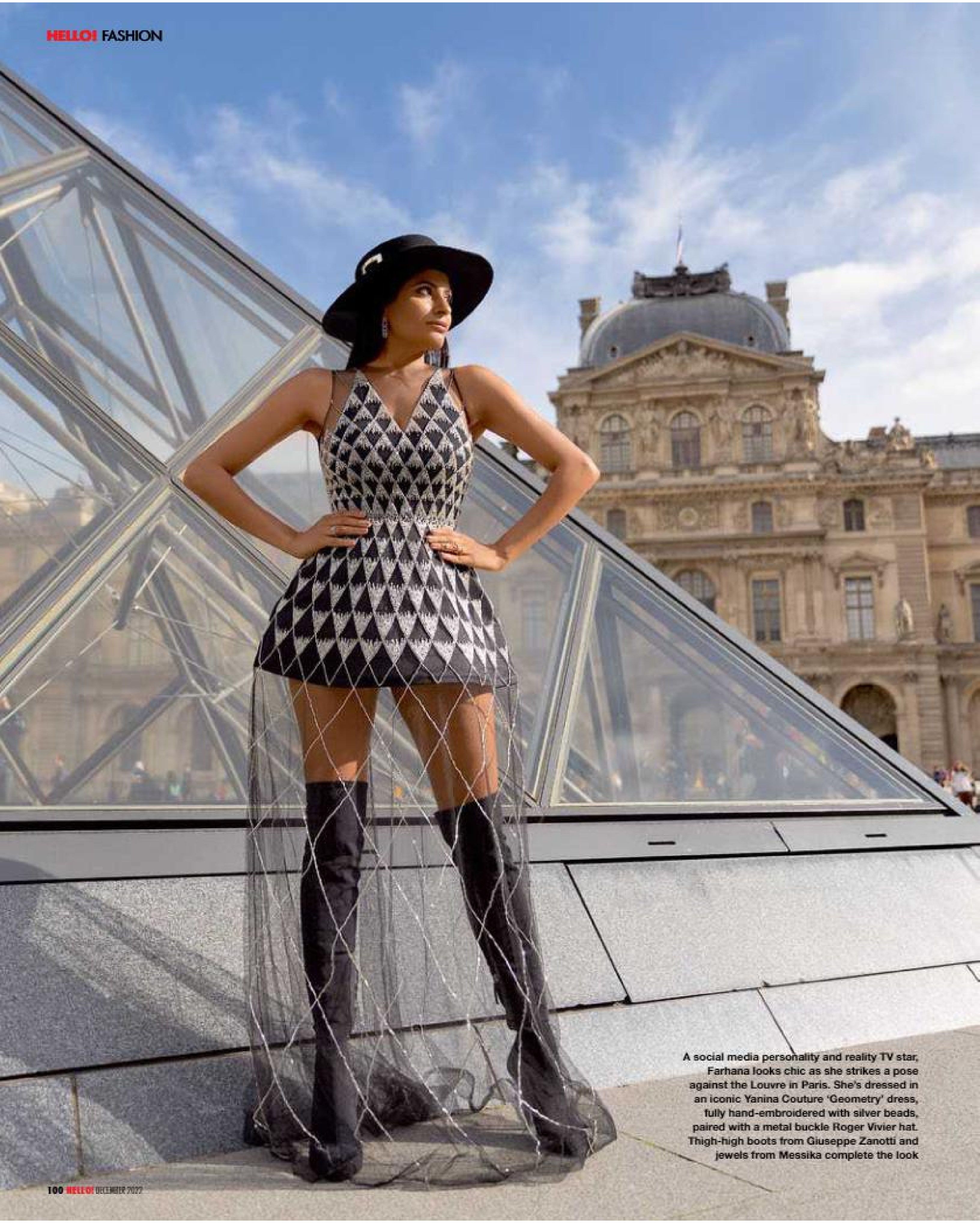


Personifying glamour at Place Vendôme in Paris, Farhana Bodi sports an aqua-laminated, printed, loose, pleated dress with feather details and cape-like sleeves from Gemy Maalouf. She accessorises with Sophia Craque boots from Bettina Vermillon and Messika jewellery

KJO KOMMENTS

"I haven't seen any episode of Dubai Bling, but it sounds much like Bollywood Wives. I'd say both are guilty pleasures! Everyone hates on such series yet watches them. The reason we are going into our third season of Bollywood Wives — and Dubai Bling will probably go into a second season — means that everyone's dissing it, but everyone's loving it, too! So if they're attacking Farhana on or off the show, let me tell you that they've made her famous! Even in Big Boss, it's always the person who gets attacked the most who wins!"

On the streets of Rue De Rivoli in the City of Love, the style maven takes it up a notch in a high-neck coat with a lace belt and boots with strass decoration, both from Genny, teamed with jewels from Messika



A social media personality and reality TV star, Farhana looks chic as she strikes a pose against the Louvre in Paris. She's dressed in an iconic Yanina Couture 'Geometry' dress, fully hand-embroidered with silver beads, paired with a metal buckle Roger Vivier hat. Thigh-high boots from Giuseppe Zanotti and jewels from Messika complete the look

With Paris' Tuileries Garden in the background, the *Dubai Bling* star sets an example of sporty-chic in a turtleneck bomber jacket, an animalier T-shirt and satin jogging pants, all from Genny, teamed with bling from Messika

wonderful memories associated with the place will always make it special for me. The vintage and gold details make the place stunning. 3. The iconic Burj Al Arab is one of a kind. It's all bling from the moment you enter its premises. 4. I love the luxury art in the interiors of Four Seasons Hotel des Bergues Geneva. It's all in the details. 5. I had the immense pleasure of staying at a villa of Mandarin Oriental Bodrum. It was one of the best places I holidayed at this year. Truly memorable!

My most recent indulgence: I recently purchased an Hermès Kelly Bag. For me, it's a great investment, and I'm particularly glad that I managed to get an exotic colour. The bag is sky blue, which is a rare shade to find.

A home that spells luxury: The Swiss home of my friend Caroline Scheufele, the owner of Chopard. It's beautiful and luxurious, with lots of vintage pieces.

Three men and women who nail the luxe look: 1. German blogger Leonie Hanne loves colours and bling just as much as I do and has all the latest brands. 2. I can relate to Natasha Poonawalla. I love her edgy and couture fashion. She goes all the way to dress up. 3. I love everything about Kylie Jenner. She's sensuous and wears fun clothes and super luxurious brands that I like. 4. Ranveer Singh, too, goes all out. I love his fashion sense and fun Gucci looks. He's loud and cool. 5. Bryan Yambao, a social media influencer, has an amazing collection of luxe handbags and knows how to style them. 6. I'm a die-hard fan of artist Maluma as he's always stylishly put together and looks good in whatever he sports.

Three must-haves in a woman's closet: A classic Chanel bag, a Cartier love bracelet, and a Louis Vuitton trolley.

My style icon: I love everything about Kylie Jenner. Her makeup is always on point, and her fashion sense is so lit!

My personal style: Fun, edgy, colourful and glamorous.

INTERVIEW: NAYARE ALI
PHOTOS: IGOR SHABALIN & SERGEY GRACHEV
HAIR: PATRICK & MARCEL
FASHION EDITOR: SONAM POLADIA

--→

EXCLUSIVE

Paris Hilton

She came, she saw, she conquered! The Hilton heiress made quite a splash during her chock-a-block trip to India. HELLO! caught up with her for a candid chat on her love for fragrances, fashion and more

There's a flurry of excitement in the private chambers of a luxury hotel in Mumbai, where a select few are invited for a one-on-one with this international beauty. After several false announcements, the statuesque lady appears, dressed in a glittering powder blue co-ord set — quite the contrast to the red *ghagra* she had donned for a meet-and-greet earlier in the day.

At first glance, Paris Hilton resembles a Barbie doll. Tall and svelte, with flawless skin minimally made up, her blue eyes radiating warmth. Paris belies her age (she's 41!) and displays remarkable grace with all gathered starstruck around her, no hint of impatience despite being strapped for time during her whirlwind trip to India.

"This is my seventh trip to India, and it's so wonderful to be back! Everything looks so beautiful tonight, and I'm happy to be here, dressed in Indian clothes," she tells the crowd, soft spoken and gentle, ahead of the launch of her perfume brand, Ruby Rush.

Following the formalities of the launch, Paris gets candid with HELLO! for a quick tête-à-tête on her brands, love for fragrances and setting Y2K fashion trends both on and off the runway.

> **"Y2K fashion was iconic. I love seeing some of the trends I started on the runway and on social media. It makes me proud when people say I really defined that era of fashion!"**

Over the years, you transformed your identity into a well-established brand. Did this happen organically, or did you put conscious thought into it? I'm a creative person at heart and really enjoy being involved in the entire process when it comes to my brands. For my fragrances, in particular, I love coming up with a concept, meeting perfumers and working closely with my team.

Your newly established media house is being talked about extensively. Can you throw some light on it? Yes! The name 11:11 comes from my favourite time of the day. 11:11 brings all my companies under one media entity, and every day is so different! From board meetings and speaking at conferences, to advocating for children's rights at Capitol Hill and DJing at a huge music festival, I aim to use my platform to inspire and empower people.

You seem to have a finger in every pie. What do you do for some downtime? I love getting massages and facials! I also like taking bubble baths with candles.

How have all your visits to India been? What did you expect to experience during this trip? I'm so proud to be launching Ruby Rush in India. It's such a beautiful country with a rich culture. I've visited seven times already. I'm so excited to be sharing my fragrances with the people of India.

You're quite a fashion icon. Any thoughts on that? Y2K fashion was iconic. I love seeing some of the trends I started on the runway and on social media. It makes me feel proud when people say I really helped define that era of fashion!

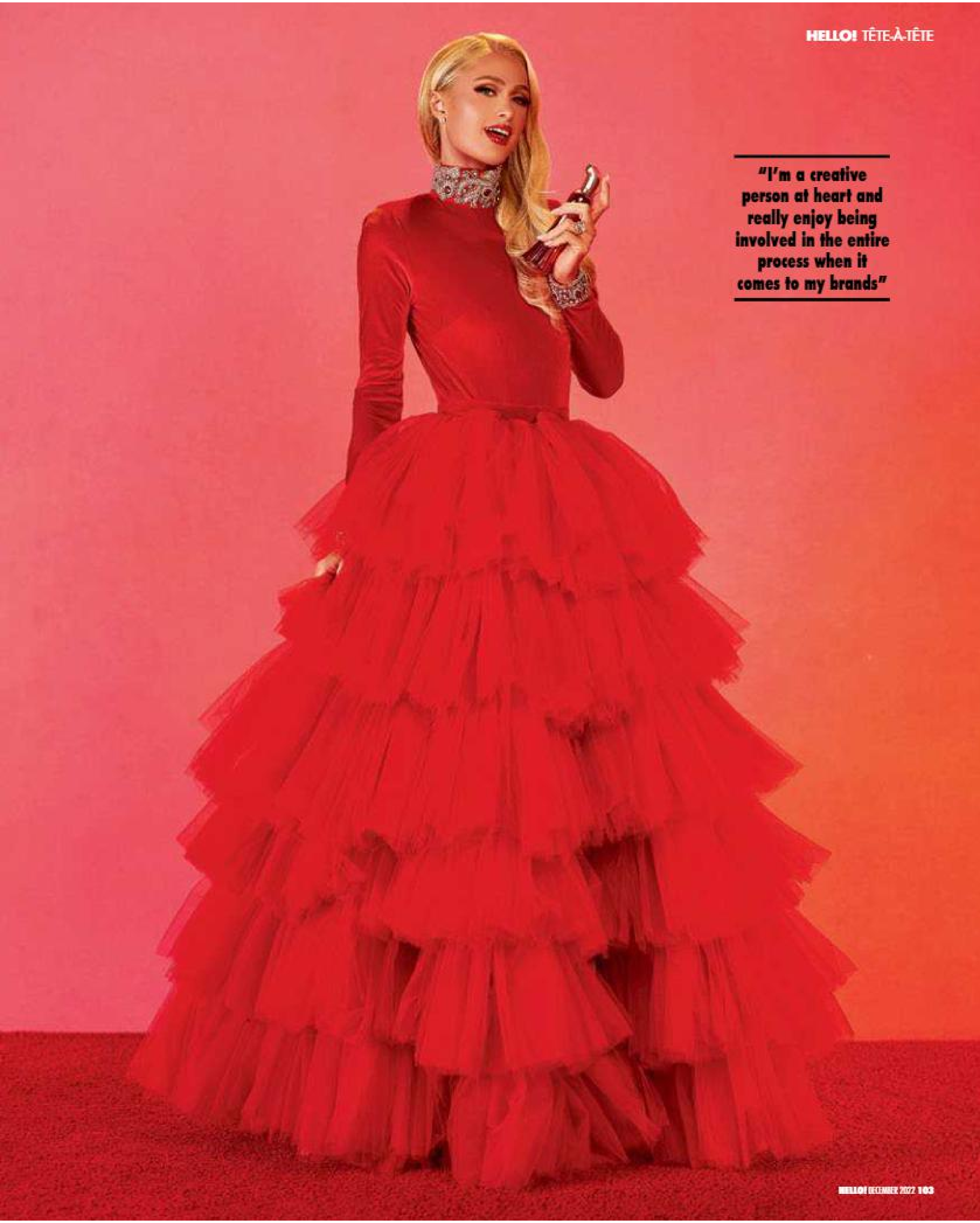
How did you venture into the business of fragrances? Since I was a little girl, I've always loved fragrances. It was a natural step for me to create my own. In 2004, I launched Paris Hilton For Women. It's been the most amazing experience. Since that became a best-seller, I launched 27 perfumes, including my latest, Ruby Rush, which I'm so proud of!

You travelled to India specially to launch the Ruby Rush brand. What is the USP of this fragrance? Ruby Rush is unique because it combines fruity, floral and woody tones with touches of edible delights like vanilla for an unforgettable aromatic experience. It's designed to evoke the colour red and empower you — which is so hot!

Among all the perfumes you launched over the years, which one's your favourite? My first ever fragrance, Paris Hilton For Women, is probably my favourite because it started my journey with fragrances. Ruby Rush is my 28th, though each one is so special to me. I currently wear Ruby Rush all the time for different occasions because it's such a versatile scent.

Define a Ruby Rush woman. She's confident in her skin, loves wearing the colour red and 'sliving' (slaying + living) her best life!

INTERVIEW: NAYARE ALI



"I'm a creative person at heart and really enjoy being involved in the entire process when it comes to my brands"

THE HIGH LIFE

'LUXURY' IS FOR THE DISCERNING. IT'S DEFINED NOT JUST BY A PRICE TAG BUT MORE SO BY EXQUISITE TASTE AND AN EYE FOR EXPERIENCES THAT STAND OUT. NINE FASHION-FORWARD, GLAMOROUS LADIES SHARE THEIR MOST LUXURIOUS ESCAPADES AND CHOICES OF THE YEAR WITH HELLO!

KJO KOMMENTS

"I'm so glad that the Indian industry has woken up to the world of fashion and luxury the way it has. It's not just stylists or influencers, but in this feature, we are looking at fashion entrepreneurs and even consultants. There are young people launching and heading fashion brands. Finally, something that was considered a frivolous pursuit two decades ago has today spiralled into a billion-dollar industry."

AISHWARYA NAIR MATHEW

Hotelier & Lifestyle Consultant

Luxury to me is: Time and having the energy, space and consciousness to do anything you desire when you desire it.

Most lavish holiday this year: My trip to Milan with my in-laws, who are so much fun to holiday with. Milan has an undisputed old-world charm that no other city can contest. We also drove to Modena and Parmesan to stay at Casa Maria Luigia, a villa run by Chef Massimo Bottura, where we celebrated my husband's birthday. It was splendid!

Most luxurious fashion purchase: That would be my nude, perfectly cut Alaïa dress. I love it because it's so empowering to wear and extremely sensual.

A splendid culinary experience: At Gucci Osteria da Massimo Bottura in Seoul, South Korea. The plating and décor of the restaurant was just so alluring. It was all very ostentatious but also subtle.

Most luxurious bucket list item: The YSL logo shoes in patent black. These heels are so coveted among those who truly love and speak fashion. It was sold out everywhere, but I was finally able to get my hands on them at Bergdorf Goodman in New York City.

My favourite high-end labels: Prada is my forever favourite, but I especially love its new, refreshing styles and colours. I love Alaïa for its colours and cuts. Alexander McQueen for its rock-and-roll chic vibe, Khaite for its super-chic cuts, Toteme for basics, and House of Dagmar for elevated essentials. YSL is classic yet modern, whereas Maison Margiela is both eclectic and avant-garde.

My favourite luxuristas: Anna Dello Russo is such an icon, as is Elsa Schiaparelli, who was the queen of surrealism. Another luxurista I love is Rossy de Palma. She's unconventional and intriguing with her style.

Aishwarya's trip to Milan this year was one of her most memorable

SONAM BABANI

Luxury & Lifestyle Blogger

Luxury to me is: A way of life, not a particular bag or a piece of jewellery. The word 'luxury' is thrown around so frivolously these days, but to me, it's the old definition that holds true — luxury is something that's rare, hard to find, something only you may have, or an experience so personal that only you may have had. For example: a family heirloom, my engagement ring, or experiencing a kill in Africa after an eight-hour chase.

Most lavish holiday this year: Gosh! It's a tough one between Tanzania and Japan. But I'll pick Japan. The country is so rich in culture and way ahead of the world at the same time. There's really no other place like it that's got such strong roots to its heritage and yet is so ahead of its time. The luxury experience there is unlike any other. For instance, in Kyoto, there's a Hublot store tucked away in a geisha district designed exactly like a traditional Japanese ryokan. Plus, there are three tall Chanel buildings in Tokyo's Ginza area alone!

For Sonam, her 2022 travel experiences in Japan and Tanzania stand out — both for varied reasons

Most luxurious fashion purchase: The Atelier Versace custom-made lehenga I bought for my wedding. The whole experience of visiting the atelier, the fittings and the fact that it was for such an important event in my life makes it so, so special.

A splendid culinary experience: This was one during my stay at The Singita Mara River Tented Camp in Tanzania. The camp's Michelin-honoured chef would curate a personalised menu for me and my husband every night, including healthy options for me and indulgent ones for him. The menu was a surprise every night, and each dish was fantastic. The experience of indulging in these meals, with this level of personal service in the middle of nowhere in a tent, was extremely special!

Most luxurious bucket list item: My dream wedding. I waited all my life for this fairytale moment. And it truly was a fairytale, amid the snow-capped Alps in Zermatt, Switzerland.

My favourite high-end labels: Chanel, always! It's timeless and also an investment, with the prices of its products appreciating every year. I also love Loewe, Balenciaga and Prada. The list goes on!

My favourite luxurista: My sister-in-law, Simran! She's got an old-world charm and a timeless sense of style, and speaks the language of luxury like no other.

→

Equine adventures are the only additions to Ritika's bucket list this year

RITIKA JOLLY

Stylist & Artist

Luxury to me: Bags, shoes and vacations aside, true luxury to me is real happiness, especially in this post-Covid world where mental health is of utmost priority.

Most lavish holiday this year: My husband and I managed to travel across Puglia, and it turned out to be a gem of a destination. The food and the beaches there were both fantastic. That encapsulates a perfect holiday for me.

Most luxurious fashion purchase: While there were plenty, the one I truly value is the beautiful gold Rolex that Sammir gifted me to mark our 10th anniversary.

Splendid culinary experiences: I've eaten some great food this year. I managed to try four Michelin-starred restaurants in Italy. Il Palagio at the Four Seasons in Florence was lovely, but there was nothing like the seafood I devoured in some of the family-owned and family-run restaurants during our trip to Puglia.

Most luxurious bucket list addition: I'm an avid equestrian and realised that the only additions in my bucket list are equine adventures — whether it's a week spent riding and swimming in the ocean with horses in Camargue, or a wildlife safari on horseback at Jehan Numa in India. I don't know why I want to be on horseback when I encounter a leopard, but I guess that's why it's called a bucket list!

My favourite high-end labels: Anamika Khanna, 431-88 by Shweta Kapur, Ritika Mirchandani, Misho, Jacquemus, Tom Ford, Loewe, Prada, Isabel Marant, Elisabetta Franchi and Maje.

My favourite luxuristas: I have always loved Olivia Palermo and Sarah Jessica Parker's style.

KULSUM SHADAB WAHAB

Philanthropist; Executive Director, Hothur Foundation; Founder, Ara Lumiere

Luxury to me: Life is filled with smaller luxuries that work along the lines of kind gestures and love, which together make it more than fulfilling. That's true luxury to me — a life filled with compassion and love.

Most lavish holiday this year: Taormina in Sicily, Italy, is probably the most memorable holiday I went on. The grand, dramatic stretch of coastline is rich in history, with sunsets that go with the relaxing Mediterranean lifestyle. I was in awe.

Most luxurious fashion purchase: There's this beautiful piece of jewellery from Boucheron that I absolutely adore. It's very detailed, made with sustainable metals and stones, and is a flawless piece through and through.

A splendid culinary experience: Dans le Noir in Paris was an unforgettable and emotional experience. It's funded by the Paul Guinot Foundation for Blind People, so the restaurant is entirely staffed by the visually impaired. You dine in pitch darkness, which makes it a whole new sensory experience.

Most luxurious bucket list item: Definitely some more Schiaparelli accessories from their new season. Schiaparelli is the true essence of inspiration, with their surreal and eccentric approach to fashion.

My favourite high-end labels: I genuinely love trying different emerging designers that spotlight the young. They tend to be innovative. But my heart truly lies in local designers from different countries. It implores you to check out different cultures and styles. It's incredibly inspiring.

My favourite luxurista: Princess Diana was a true icon and inspirational. Her legacy extends beyond fashion. She's arguably the greatest icon of the 20th century as she exhibited royalty and elegance through such great empathy.

→

SIMRAN GREWAL

Lawyer & Luxury Consultant

Luxury to me: Has two aspects: one of consumption in terms of material things and experiences that focus on quality, beauty and elegance; and the second that involves the ability to lead a holistic lifestyle with a great work-life balance.

Most lavish holiday this year: My favourite holiday every year is at a friend's villa in Tuscany in the Chianti Hills, with afternoons spent hiking, wine tasting and hopping across to the Uffizi in Florence to stare at my favourite Renaissance masterpieces.

Most luxurious fashion purchase: This year, it was a Bottega Veneta Jodie mini bag, a Christopher Kane knit sweater, a Proenza Schouler jersey dress and a pair of Mugler jeans.

A splendid culinary experience: It was at the home of my friend Brigadier Sukhjit Singh of Kapurthala, with the palace staff serving us a delightful five-course meal with various meats, curries and exotic vegetables. Besides the food and wine, it was the conversation that had such range, depth and humour, thanks to his royal highness, who's a decorated soldier and a connoisseur of luxury.

Most luxurious bucket list item: This was setting up my own platform dedicated to fashion, art and culture, directed through my own lens, which I named Vanguard Voices.

My favourite high-end labels: Loewe, Victoria Beckham, JW Anderson, Khaite, Awake Mode, Agolde, Valentino, Self-Portrait, Nanushka, Max Mara, Proenza Schouler and Celine. Among Indian brands, I'd say Sabyasachi, Raw Mango and Cheri D make me feel like a princess any day, any time and any place, whether it's an art gallery opening or a friend's wedding.

My favourite luxuristas: Sharis Shir from Dubai is truly a luxury connoisseur, and I adore Meghan Markle's taste.

URVI JINDAL BHATIA

Entrepreneur

Luxury to me: Luxury means something different for each person. For me, it's a mix of three things. 1. Quality: when you buy something, it should last for a long time. 2. Experience: buying luxury is related to buying an experience. 3. Environment: the way you are treated influences the experience.

Most lavish holiday this year: Exploring smaller cities in various countries to get a more enriched and authentic experience of their cultures. For instance, San Miguel in Mexico, San Sebastian in Spain and Biarritz in France.

Most luxurious fashion purchase: This year, my fashion purchases were geared more towards athleisure, with brands like Alo Yoga. Their pieces can be worn on the go, all day long, and exude a fashion-forward street wear look, while also maintaining functionality as workout clothing. I'm a big fan of their leggings. They're flattering, comfortable and high quality.

Splendid culinary experiences: The culinary experience I really enjoyed recently was the street food in Mexico City. It was delectable, especially the tacos and churros. But they didn't overshadow the gourmet restaurant scene. Mexico City has amazingly talented chefs who explore modern renditions of traditional foods, blend regional ingredients with other cuisines, and craft delicious tasting menus and omakase dinners.

Luxe bucket list additions: The SH Raza and a few other pieces of art that I bought for my new house.

My favourite high-end labels: Alo Yoga, Hermès, Zuhair Murad and 431-88 by Shweta Kapur.

My favourite luxurista: Sanjana Batra. She has impeccable style and taste and has a way of making everything she wears look great.

MONICA GUPTA

Luxury Fashion Influencer

Luxury to me is: Having the time and freedom to appreciate things in life. It's not all about buying expensive things. The joy of sleep is also a luxury to me!

Most lavish holiday this year: I went skiing with my kids in Courchevel, France, and also spent time exploring our favourite destination, Thailand.

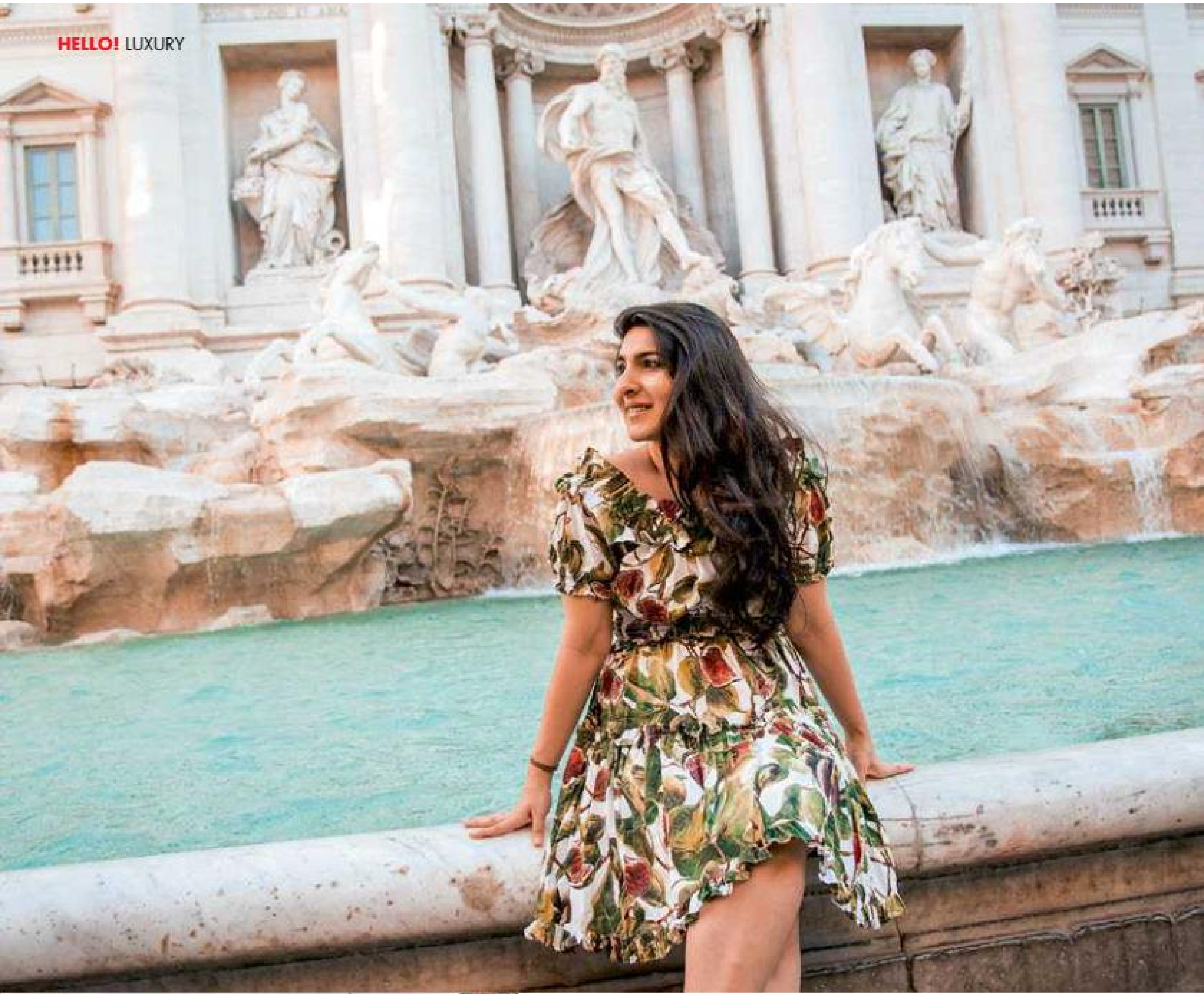
Most luxurious fashion purchase: I bought the shark lock boots by Givenchy and the L19 Pouch in ostrich leather lipstick from Loro Piana.

Splendid culinary experiences: It would have to be at fine-dining restaurants Disfrutar in Barcelona and Septime in Paris.

Luxe bucket list additions: Skydiving with Zero Gravity in Dubai, exploring South America and kicking off my image consulting venture.

My favourite high-end labels: David Koma, Christopher Esber, Dion Lee, The Attico and Givenchy. Though Valentino and Dior remain my all-time favourites.

My favourite luxuristas: Olivia Palermo. She epitomises beauty, grace and elegance.



TANISHA AGARWAL

Luxury & Lifestyle Blogger

Luxury to me is: About being timeless! Elegance is not just in following the latest trend or having the need to collect/ hoard endlessly. For me, it's not about the quantity but about the quality that weaves together style, comfort and elegance, making me feel the best version of myself.

Most lavish holiday this year: Eden Roc Antibes, Grand Hotel Du Cap Ferrat and Four Seasons in Nice — all in France — will definitely be remembered!

Most luxurious fashion purchases: An open-work leather corset belt by Alaïa, a pair of Amina Muaddi heels, and L'alingi and mini Kelly Hermès handbags.

Splendid culinary experiences: Eleven Madison Park in NYC, an all-time classic, and Geranium in Copenhagen, which was named the 'Best Restaurant of 2022'. I'd like to make a special mention of how leading restaurants are jumping onto the meatless train and still dishing out some outstanding food! It truly is where food meets art. Mirazur in southern France and La Colombe in Cape Town were great experiences, as well.

Luxe bucket list addition: The Singita luxury lodges and camps in Serengeti and the Belmond Splendido Hotel in Italy are certainly on my mind!

My favourite high-end labels: LoveShackFancy, Nadine Merabi, The Attico, Bec & Bridge, Brandon Maxwell, Galia Lahav and Zimmerman are some of the top labels I follow.

My favourite luxuristas: Chiara Ferragni, Rosie Huntington-Whiteley, Sophia Roe, Negin Mirsalehi, Valeria Lipovetsky and Gabrielle Caunesil Pozzoli.

SANYA V JAIN

Entrepreneur

Luxury to me is: Something that's comfortable. Otherwise it's not a luxury!

Most lavish holiday this year: I didn't travel as much through Covid, so this year, there were a lot of trips. My favourite destination that was super relaxed and much-needed was the Cheval Blanc Randheli in the Maldives. I love everything about this island. My other favourite was a friend's wedding in Puglia. It felt 'normal' again.

Most luxurious fashion purchase: Well, it's definitely been about revenge shopping this year. I quite enjoyed the collection at L'eclaireur and Samaritaine, apart from the usual Rue Saint-Honoré when I visited Paris this summer.

Splendid culinary experiences: Chef David Toutain's Michelin-starred restaurant at Rue Surcouf was a wonderful experience. They serve creative cuisine. I like to visit Caviar Kaspia every time I visit Paris. I'm excited that they opened in Dubai, too. The food is exquisite! I also quite enjoyed the cocktails at Los Mochis, and The Twenty Two in London was fun, too.

Luxe bucket list addition: The emerald green Nautilus is yummy!

My favourite high-end labels: That depends on the season. I'd say Loewe, Hermès, Chanel, and the Gucci x Adidas and Balenciaga x Adidas collabs are fun. Dior, Valentino, Saint Laurent, Loro Piana, Elie Saab, The Row, Prada, Miu Miu and Tom Ford are among other favourites.

My favourite luxuristas: Hailey Beiber, Anna Dello Russo, Dua Lipa, Mary Kate and Ashley Olsen, Bella Hadid, Olivia Palermo, Rihanna and Kendall Jenner, to name a few.

TEXT: AMBER TIKARI, SHRADDHA CHOWDHURY, NAYARE ALI & ANUSHREE SARDESAI

ALIZEY & LAILLI MIRZA

HELLO! STEPS INTO THE HAUTE AND HAPPENING WORLD OF THE FASHION-CURIOUS TWINS FROM DUBAI, AS THEY SPILL THE BEANS ON ALL THEIR EXTRAVAGANT CHOICES

KJO KOMMENTS

"They look haute! Dubai seems to be the 'it place' for OTT maximalism. These sisters look ready to hit the runway at any given point. I truly appreciate men and women who are well turned out and make an effort with their looks. This 'just got out of bed' look is a bit overrated. It makes me think, 'Make an effort! You have to face the world! Look good!"

Dubai-based fashionistas, everything about Alizey and Lailli Mirza spells glamour. Striking a pose in the verdant garden of Raffles The Palm Dubai, the sisters are dressed to a tee. Lailli's in a Petite top and Jacquemus fringe skirt, teamed with René Caovilla shoes and a Chanel sling bag. Alizey is pretty in a Jacquemus top and trousers from Revolve, accessorised with Gianvito Rossi heels and a Chanel bag

They may be twins, but they are poles apart in temperament — and the Mirza duo wouldn't have it any other way. Pretty, poised and perfectly complementing each other, Alizey and Lailli Mirza are beauty icons with a keen eye for fashion and high acclaim among Dubai's elite.

While Alizey works as Head of Marketing and VIP Relations at Biolite, a wellness and aesthetic clinic in the city, Lailli oversees the firm's marketing strategy and also runs her own fashion label. Business is in their blood as it was their mother, Mona Mirza, who established Biolite. Their Bengaluru-

based father, Zeyn Mirza, is Managing Director at United Racing & Bloodstock Breeders, which gives the fashion influencer siblings roots in India. Though settled in the Middle East and living the high life there, the sisters are equally at home in both countries.

HELLO! delves into the luxe choices of these popular faces, while they put together a special shoot in Dubai.

Define luxury:

Alizey: To me, luxury is something one can't put a price on. After the pandemic, I realised that true luxury is having good health. A healthy lifestyle is a luxury that not everyone can afford.

Lailli: Luxury is the state of being comfortable. It's being able to afford the basic necessities in life as well as being able to invest in your passions and hobbies and finding time off from work. True luxury, for me, is not having to ever work, and doing whatever you want, whenever you want, without having to ever worry about finances.

Our most lavish travel experience:

Alizey: The Maldives is one of our favourite luxury destinations. We travel there once a year.

Lailli: I love spending summer with family in Europe, at the French or Italian Riviera. I spend

> **"True luxury is not having to ever work, and doing whatever you want, whenever you want, without having to ever worry about finances"**
> ***– Lailli Mirza***

> **"After the pandemic, I realised that true luxury is having good health. A healthy lifestyle is a luxury that not everyone can afford"**
> ***– Alizey Mirza***

The stunning twins are in stark contrast with the ornate gold backdrop of the hotel's tea lounge, dressed in classic monochromatic looks from Solace London and jewellery from Van Cleef & Arpels. Lailli's ensemble is further accentuated with belts and a bag, all from Chanel, while Alizey has teamed her outfit with a Lady Dior bag and Mach & Mach heels

winters in either the Maldives for a private island getaway if I haven't had enough sun, or doing something exciting in the snow, like visiting the Ice Hotel in Sweden, or the Blue Lagoon in Iceland.

Hotels that embody luxury:
Alizey: What I love about Aman Resorts is that each location provides privacy within some of the world's most diverse and historical landscapes. The resorts offer unparalleled experiences that are discreet and intimate, while providing a high level of customer service, which is exactly what you want when looking for somewhere to relax and unwind.
Lailli: I have yet to find a better bed than the ones at Four Seasons. I also enjoy various wellness retreats such as SHA in Spain, Joali Being in the Maldives and Chenot Palace Weggis in Switzerland.

Our favourite brands:
Alizey: I've always admired the craftsmanship of Dior. The attention to detail and quality remains of a high standard, for both its ready-to-wear and leather goods. When it comes to interior design, Jonathan Adler's style of juxtaposing elegance with a sense of playfulness and pop of colour is one I admire. Graff's fine jewels are the epitome of luxury. Aside from their unparalleled and unique

In another quaint corner of the luxury hotel, the Mirza sisters twin in Dolce & Gabbana outfits, accessorised with jewellery from Van Cleef & Arpels and Amina Muaddi heels. Lailii completes her look with an Hermès bag

> **"From our personalities to our personal style, Lailli and I are polar opposites. I see this as a strength as we complement each other"**
>
> ***– Alizey Mirza***

> **"While working with family and living together can be a colossal challenge, none of us would have it any other way as we all have each other's best interest at heart"**
>
> ***– Lailli Mirza***

designs, I love the story behind the brand. The story of Laurence Graff is truly inspiring.

Lailli: I really appreciate the craftsmanship of Italian brands such as Loro Piana and Brunello Cucinelli, though Dior and Bottega Veneta's ready-to-wear collections are more contemporary, yet beautifully crafted with high-quality fabrics and classic designs that can create the perfect capsule wardrobe. I recently became an avid jewellery collector, curating a collection of Cartier, Tiffany's, Bulgari and Van Cleef & Arpels staples for everyday wear. I soon hope to start investing in more timeless, high-jewellery pieces from Graff and Harry Winston. Though I'm not that knowledgeable about interior design, I buy odd pieces that appeal to me for my apartment, no matter the brand. However, I greatly admire Timothy Oulton and Rick Owens, though they are both wildly different — I love the simplicity of Rick Owens' homeware and the beautiful conversation starters by Timothy Oulton.

Best winter buys:

Alizey: Loro Piana open walk chukka boots with beaver-fur lining and a cashmere coat from Max Mara.

Lailli: Besides a staple Max Mara coat and a sturdy pair of leather boots, anything Baby Cashmere from Loro Piana is perfect for layering.

Sister act:

Alizey: Lailli and I are very different in every aspect. From our personalities to our personal style, we are polar opposites. One of us is an introvert, the other is an extrovert. I see this as a strength as we complement each other. There are certain things Lailli is great at, and some that I'm not so confident in, and vice versa. So we have a great balance in everything that we do together.

Lailli: Much like our personal style, we both have different approaches to work

The matching yet contrasting choice of attire reflects not only their love for experimenting with fashion but also their differing personalities. Lailli sports a top from Rotate and trousers from The Andamane, paired with a Chanel bag, Van Cleef & Arpels jewellery and Revolve sunglasses. Alizey stuns in a top from Dolce & Gabbana and skirt from Rotate, accessorised with Amina Muaddi heels and sunglasses from Revolve

A YouTuber, entrepreneur and business development manager, Lailli embodies glamour. Her metallic dress from Attico, paired with statement jewels from Bulgari and Cartier, are in sync with the gold accents of her luxe vanity

and have individual ideas on how to grow and scale Biolite. Nevertheless, our mother is the mediator who ultimately manages to make the best of both sets of ideas. While working with family and living together can be a colossal challenge, none of us would have it any other way as we all have each other's best interest at heart.

Our professional space:

Alizey: Our mother, Mona, established Biolite in London 20 years ago. It's Dubai's first day retreat, combining aesthetics, plastic surgery, integrative medicine and diagnostic testing. We pioneered a unique approach to holistic healthcare. Rather than suppressing your symptoms, we address the root causes of your concerns through comprehensive diagnostic testing. At Biolite, we believe that looking great on the outside starts from within. Our 360-degree approach to aesthetics and wellness goes hand-in-hand. This, as a result, delivers optimal results to ensure a longer, happier and healthier life.

Lailli: I'm a YouTuber, Business Development Manager at Biolite and an entrepreneur with a clothing brand, Petite. This started as a passion project when I launched a clothing manufacturing studio. I wouldn't call myself a designer though.

Three celebrities who nail the luxe look:

Alizey: Melania Trump and Queen Rania of Jordan are two women whose style I admire. Their feminine silhouettes of skirt-and-jacket co-ords, statement jumpsuits and tailored coats are the epitome of elegance. I also love Rosie Huntington-Whiteley's personal style, the neutral palette she opts for in particular. She combines masculine and feminine elements when putting outfits together, mixing body blazers with silk maxi dresses and heels, for instance. Her overall look is polished yet relaxed, with simple hair and makeup.

Lailli: Justin and Hailey Bieber, Drake, Rihanna and Victoria Beckham. Their styles are all completely different, but I would happily raid any of their wardrobes!

Three must-haves in a woman's closet:

Alizey: A classic handbag that can be taken from day to evening, a set of solitaire earrings that are timeless and classic, and a well-structured blazer that can be styled in multiple ways.

Lailli: A beautiful, timeless watch, a classic bag that can be used as an accessory both during the day and in the evening, and an expensive yet comfortable pair of heels.

Our style icons:

Alizey: Queen Rania of Jordan. She always looks elegant, polished and stylish, while remaining modest at the same time.

Lailli: I appreciate Christine Centenera's minimal and laid-back style. It's effortless yet put together without being overly branded and complicated. Simplicity is key, especially when the clothes are crafted from high-quality fabrics. The older I got, the further I steered clear of logo-embellished, branded clothes as it can appear tacky or ostentatious.

Our personal style:

Alizey: Classic, timeless and feminine.

Lailli: My style is dependent on my mood and the events I need to attend on a particular day. So I would say eclectic.

A luxury experience that money cannot define, in our opinion:

Alizey: You can't go wrong with investing in your health. Today, with everyone being so busy and wired, I believe time is one of the greatest luxuries. Having time alone is even more precious. Also, spending time at a luxury wellness retreat, disconnecting from social media and the outside world, is priceless.

Lailli: A luxury investment could be property or appreciating assets for long-term financial gain. Alternatively many overlook the benefits of investing in your health and overall well-being, but it's definitely something worth investing in and researching on further. ■

INTERVIEW: NAYARE ALI
PHOTOS: LEILA MEDIA
FASHION EDITOR: SONAM POLADIA
LOCATION COURTESY: RAFFLES THE PALM DUBAI

For the celebrity-dotted Valentino showcase, Delna wore a corset from her new collection in pink, with dramatic details. For Lanvin, she chose a Balmain dress, teamed with black butterfly Sophie Webster shoes

PARIS: THE INSIDE VIEW

'PARIS IS NOT A CITY; IT'S A WORLD,' SAID KING FRANCIS I. WHEN IT COMES TO FASHION, HE WAS ON POINT. DURING FASHION WEEK, THE CITY COMES ALIVE WITH THE BIGGEST NAMES OF THE INDUSTRY CONVENING TO TAKE IN ALL THAT TOP AND EMERGING DESIGNERS HAVE TO OFFER. FASHION DESIGNER, WELLNESS ENTHUSIAST & DIRECTOR OF POONAWALLA STUD FARM, DELNA POONAWALLA, GIVES HELLO! A RINGSIDE VIEW

The designers who made an impact: From the Dior show, where Rihanna made a surprising appearance, Kanye West stomping through mud for Balenciaga, and Cher strutting down the runway for the Balmain finale, dressed in a dark silver latex catsuit, to the jaw-dropping moment when Coperni literally spray painted a dress onto Bella Hadid, Paris Fashion Week 2022 gave us a lot to remember. Kylie Jenner made her presence felt across Paris, and pops of Valentino's hot pink added to the vibrance of the already sparkling city.

The shows I attended: It was a privilege to be invited to my all-time favourite Valentino's showcase. The Valentino Pink PP Collection by Pierpaolo Piccioli was truly unique, one that will never be forgotten. The venue was a beautiful glass house, which allowed for plenty of light and warmth to seep in. I had a splendid view of the show from the front row, and it was quite the experience, watching the models weave in and out through the benches. All in all, the show took my breath away!

Besides hot pink, there were reds, yellows and purples in the collection showcased. I also loved the subtle Valentino self-print in nude and black, and nude and red. The look that stood out the most was the mesh print with which Valentino had covering some of the models' faces. It was striking!

The event was dotted with celebrities from the world over. Besides Madelaine Petsch of *Riverdale* fame, there was Florence Pugh in a pink dress paired with a white cape. Erykah Baku added a pop of colour to the front row. Christine Quinn from *Selling Sunset* was spotted in a tiny pink bikini and skirt set, besides Ashley Park from *Emily In Paris*, and British actor Simone Ashley, dressed elegantly in black lace.

I've always admired: Lanvin. Their drapes and finish are impeccable. The venue was an actual warehouse of sorts where benches were placed in rows of two and three throughout a dimly lit room with an orange hue. Artistic Director Bruno Sialelli showcased both men and women's clothing on the runway, but she steered clear of the usual and instead presented a no-frills collection with clean lines. Lanvin highlighted single button-down suiting in a nude palette in glossy satin and silk fabrics. Towards the middle of the show, we saw garments with pops of colour on denim and even T-shirts. A cool mesh trainer in emerald green and black rubber was introduced in this collection. But what stood out the most was a shimmering sheer organza men's suit, followed by a string of women wearing sheer bucket hats.

What I wore: For the Valentino show, I made a corset from my new collection in pink, with dramatic wiring across the body and on one shoulder. I teamed it with black leather trousers, a Valentino bag and signature shoes in pink from their new collection. For Lanvin, I wore an elegant yet understated Balmain black dress with exaggerated shoulders and a drape. I paired it with my favourite dramatic black butterfly Sophie Webster shoes, with a handbag completing the look.

The closing parties: There was one at the bar at Hôtel Plaza Athénée. It's lovely, and the bar has a great vibe. The final closing party was at Carmen Paris, where the theme was 'Be a Vixen or a Fox'. It was super fun and had an open bar as well as a live performance by Gavin Magnus. It was more relaxed than the shows, and everyone could let their hair down and have a good dance.

SUSTAINABLE
LUXURY

KJO KOMMENTS

"Other than all the international brands this feature talks about, I'm glad that in India, we have fashion forces like Anita Dongre's Grassroot line and designers like Amit Aggarwal, who we know recycles plastic polymers for his gowns. Gucci, of course, is one of the prime properties in the world of couture that's very eco-conscious. Climate change is a reality, and every endeavour made by every artist and every individual can contribute to a healthier planet. I've not completely converted to a pure sustainable existence, but the endeavour is alive."

Conscious Luxury

Today, sustainability is no longer a niche for specialised brands. It's an expected standard for how companies approach their business. High-end shoppers, too, are beginning to question the eco-consciousness of their favourites. From fabric sourcing and manufacturing to distribution, sales and returns, a lot goes into creating trends that not only complement our wardrobes but our planet, too. HELLO! brings you the champions of the cause, the luxe labels doing right by the environment

A LUXURY FASHION HOUSE IS TRULY SUSTAINABLE IF THE BRAND...

1. Engages in responsible manufacturing and protects the welfare of its workforce.
2. Tries to preserve rich, traditional crafts such as embroidery, beading, jewellery-making, weaving, block-printing and dyeing techniques.
3. Is forthcoming about its suppliers and supply chain altogether.
4. Adopts the use of natural and ethical fabrics, as well as natural, non-toxic dyes like soy instead of traditional petroleum-based ink.
5. Invests time and money to design a well-made, bespoke items, as opposed to mass-market, computer-generated offerings.
6. Favours FSC-certified paper over plastic and offers compostable packaging.
7. Pays close attention to its messaging, and hiring practices — and whether both reflect inclusivity.

STELLA McCARTNEY

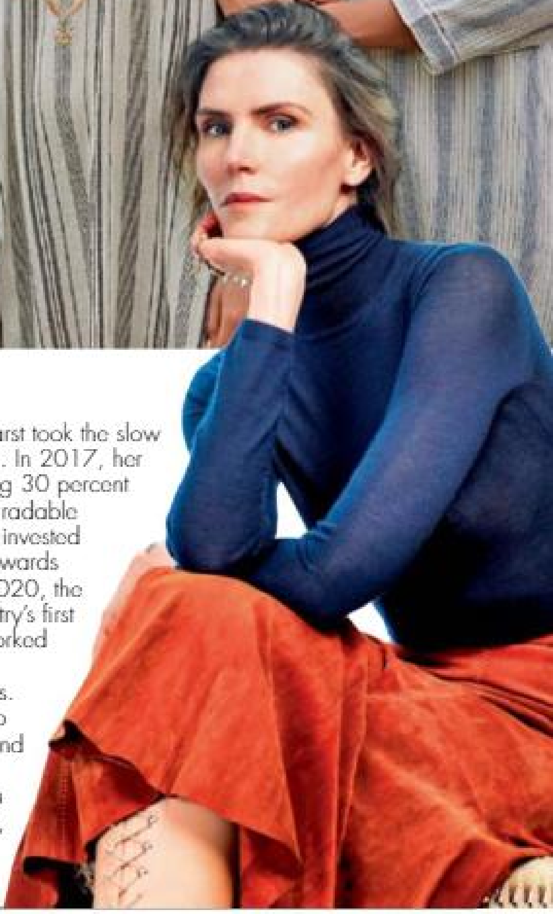
Synonymous with sustainable luxury fashion, Stella McCartney set the bar high for social and environmental accountability since the 90s. A pioneer of using alternative materials and ethical practices, her label uses re-engineered cashmere and silk, fibres from forests, recycled nylon and polyester, vegetarian leather and organic cotton. In 2005, the brand launched the Adidas by Stella McCartney range of sustainable sneakers and activewear, and in 2014, put to practise Clevercare, a five-step labelling system that educates consumers on garment care. The result? A lot less waste. A member of the Ethical Trading Initiative, the UK-based fashion house is careful with its selection of suppliers, is cruelty-free (no fur or leather), 100 percent PVC-free, uses sustainable packaging, and conducts regular audits to measure its environmental impact. An added bonus: contributions to Bioplanet, Memorial Sloan Kettering and Million Trees Miami.

GUCCI

A slew of eco-initiatives blended with some unparalled creative genius makes Gucci a covetable ethical fashion house. One of the first luxury labels to use ECONYL® — a fabric made of consumer waste, recycled plastic, ghost fishnets and discarded carpets — Gucci is committed to environmental benchmarks. It uses materials like metal or chrome-free tanned leather, recycled polyester thread and linings, and recycled brass, gold and palladium hardware. With a guarantee that the brand will make 95 percent of its raw material traceable, it's among the most transparent brands in the luxury category. Gucci Equilibrium, a platform started in 2015, is the Italian maison's commitment to eco-friendly and sustainable fashion, which upholds the vision of its parent company, Kering. And in 2020, Gucci launched Off the Grid, its first sustainable collection.

GRASSROOT BY ANITA DONGRE

Anita Dongre needs no introduction in the fashion space in India. A pioneer of sustainability, she took her eco-initiatives up a notch with the launch of Grassroot by Anita Dongre, a label comprising only ethically made sustainable clothing. It nurtures and employs female artisans from villages, the custodians of Indian crafts. Think intricate thread work, hand-embroidery, and time-honoured dyeing techniques. The House of Anita Dongre uses Bemberg™ and Tencel™ fibres (both are biodegradable and compostable) as well as cotton sourced from the Better Cotton Initiative. The Anita Dongre Foundation also works with organisations that employ women who help upcycle fabric waste. Besides fashion-related initiatives, the designer is involved in tree planting drives, staying fur- and leather-free and going paperless wherever possible.



GABRIELA HEARST

No stranger to sustainability, Gabriela Hearst took the slow fashion route since her first launch in 2015. In 2017, her eponymous label unveiled a collection using 30 percent deadstock fabrics, soon introduced biodegradable packaging, became plastic-free by 2019, invested in zero-waste stores and is now working towards eliminating the use of virgin materials. In 2020, the New York-based designer hosted the industry's first carbon-neutral showcase, for which she worked with EcoAct to monitor every aspect of the production, design, and installation process. She also uses wool from her family's merino sheep farm in Uruguay to produce piqué and twill suits, and partners with a non-profit in her homeland to empower the rural women who work on the brand's hand-knits. Today, she steers Chloé down the same path as its newly appointed creative director.

ACNE STUDIOS

A member of the Fair Wear Foundation, which helps the brand monitor and improve labour conditions, since 2008, Acne Studios is clearly open to trying to improve year on year — a trait that's evident in their annual sustainability report. Besides periodically disclosing its sustainability targets and labour conditions, the Swedish brand is known for its use of recycled and repurposed fabrics, organic silk and linen, and lyocell in its contemporary designs, adding to the brand's eco-luxury values. In fact, in 2020, Acne Studios added a sustainable line, 'Repurposed', to its repository. Since then, it's designed a variety of capsule collections quarterly, using a series of discarded offcuts and recycled fabrics that otherwise would have gone to waste.

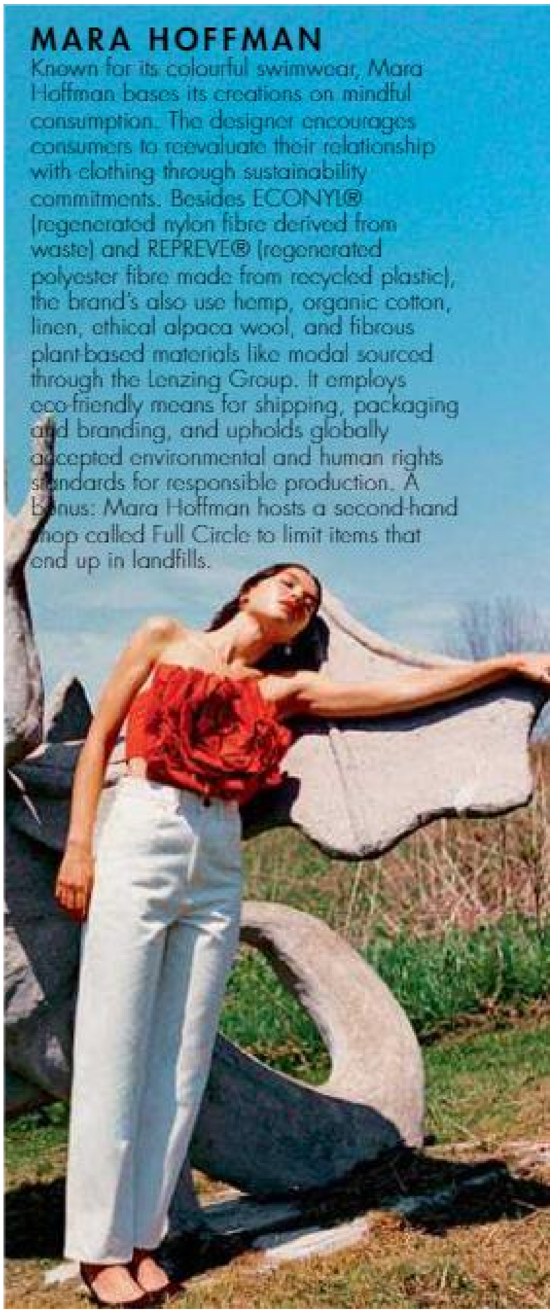
BOTTEGA VENETA

A high-end sustainable brand, renowned for craftsmanship and chic vegan products, Bottega Veneta is a prime example of eco-luxury. It was as far back as 2012 that it launched durable, classic and sustainable handbags, aiming to minimise carbon emissions. For this edit, it used a sturdy, waterproof and flexible material made of Naoron paper, produced from the bark of mulberry trees, as well as Japanese washi paper. Functioning under the Kering Group, Bottega Veneta was the first luxury label to receive the LEED certification from the Green Building Council in 2014, for its ecological Montebello Vicentino atelier. And at Milan 2020, it unveiled a line of biodegradable boots made of sugarcane and coffee.

CLIMATE
REVOLUTION

VIVIENNE WESTWOOD

"Buy less, choose well, make it last." With this motto at its core, Vivienne Westwood set quite the example by slowly transforming itself into a sustainable masterpiece. The legendary label strives to make its clothes with greater care, promotes arts and culture and uses recycled and eco-friendly fabrics like silk, organic cotton, hemp, coir and tencel. The designer also tries to mobilise people using her label to educate them on climate change and human rights. And with cutting-edge sustainable technologies, collaborations and runway events, Vivienne Westwood shows that going down the eco-friendly road is no rocket science — it merely takes heart. The brand's Fall 2022 edit featured garments in organic cotton, recycled polyester and nylon, and responsibly sourced viscose, and promoted cruelty-free products with a lower impact on the planet.



MARA HOFFMAN

Known for its colourful swimwear, Mara Hoffman bases its creations on mindful consumption. The designer encourages consumers to reevaluate their relationship with clothing through sustainability commitments. Besides ECONYL® (regenerated nylon fibre derived from waste) and REPREVE® (regenerated polyester fibre made from recycled plastic), the brand's also use hemp, organic cotton, linen, ethical alpaca wool, and fibrous plant-based materials like modal sourced through the Lenzing Group. It employs eco-friendly means for shipping, packaging and branding, and upholds globally accepted environmental and human rights standards for responsible production. A bonus: Mara Hoffman hosts a second-hand shop called Full Circle to limit items that end up in landfills.

ADIDAS

In the sportswear space, Adidas leads from the front, having been one of the first to bring sustainability to the mass market. With the aim to replace virgin polyester with recycled polyester by 2024, the brand follows an 'innovation first' principle. The end goal? A fully circular future. It's been expanding its portfolio with more eco-friendly options. In 2015, for instance, Adidas introduced the first pair of shoes made from upcycled marine plastic waste. Earlier this year, the Adizero x Allbirds ultralight running shoe — sneakers with the lowest footprint — hit the market. The brand also developed Stan Smith Mylo™, a concept shoe made from a mushroom-based material. Adidas achieved its energy reduction targets of 20 percent by 2020, was a founding member of initiatives like Better Cotton, Leather Working Group and Fair Labor Association, and partners with the likes of the Parley network and the Fashion for Good platform — all highlighting its commitment to the cause.

LEWIS HAMILTON
TOMMY HILFIGER

TOMMY HILFIGER

One of America's largest luxury brands, Tommy Hilfiger advocates sustainable fashion both from a social and manufacturing point of view. Abiding by its 'Waste Nothing, Welcome All' motto, Tommy Hilfiger strives to reduce waste by using eco-friendly fabrics and plant-based materials, through which it hopes to contribute towards the fight against climate change. In 2020, the label launched its 'Make It Possible' initiative, aimed at reducing the company's carbon footprint. The same year, the label unveiled premium shoes made of recycled apple peel fibres, a green alternative to animal leather. And to further its push for eco-friendliness, its parent company, PVH Corp, teamed up with biotech firm Evocative in 2021, to join the plastic-free vegan movement and use rapidly growing mycelium to produce raw materials.

MAGGIE MARILYN

This New Zealand-based designer is on a mission: she wants to transform the fashion industry into one that's "transparent, circular, regenerative and inclusive". Known for glamorous luxury designs that use organic cottons and ethically produced silks, Maggie Marilyn frames its own green strategy, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, as well as a suppliers code of conduct. Maggie Marilyn Hewitt, the brand owner, incorporates organic silks and cotton and other sustainable materials like FSC viscose into her garments and is also vocal about creating an inclusive environment for manufacturers and suppliers. All these green initiatives aren't merely a box-ticking exercise either, for the brand issues updates on the performance of its strategies and sets new targets annually.

EILEEN FISHER

Passionate about disrupting the linear production model, Eileen Fisher adopted the circular system, recycling and giving new life to old textiles and discarded garments. The Illinois-bred designer's eponymous label produces luxurious sustainable womenswear crafted out of recycled fabrics, organic fibres, responsible wool, lyocell and natural dyes. So it comes as no surprise that the Eileen Fisher brand is B Corp-certified and also runs second-hand shops called Renew and Waste No More. The company launched its first recycling programme in 2009, accepting old purchases to repair, clean and sell at discounted prices. The team also collaborates with eco-conservation organisations, supports artisans and empowers women through the Eileen Fisher Leadership Institute.

ROOPA PEMMARAJU

Boasting eco-credentials like low waste, fair trade and sustainable materials, Roopa Pemmaraju makes vibrant collections designed as future heirlooms, prioritising slow fashion along the way. Her feminine creations combining modern and traditional designs are drafted in New York and then sustainably made by skilled artisans in Bengaluru, who use age-old techniques like beading, embroidery, weaving, dyeing and printing to carry their legacy forward — also ensuring that no two pieces are alike. The use of natural fabrics like silk, recycled cotton corn fibres and eucalyptus, all dyed and block-printed using natural dyes, further add to the designer's green credentials.

TEXT: SHRADDHA CHOWDHURY

TASHEEN RAHIMTOOLA

THIS GLAMOROUS MUMBAI-BASED ENTREPRENEUR IS A MASTER OF CULINARY DELIGHTS. IN A LIGHT-HEARTED TÊTE-À-TÊTE, HELLO! GETS A LESSON ON CURATED LUXURY EXPERIENCES

> **"Luxury to me is a feeling of elegance, class, self-confidence and ultimate comfort. It's an impression one can strive for and achieve, without being limited to a price tag"**

A curator of culinary delights, Tasheen Rahimtoola looks elegant in a printed dress from Zimmermann, paired with heels from The Aticco, Misho jewellery and a Louis Vuitton bag

> **"A signature lipstick colour, a signature scent or perfume and, most importantly, her confidence are three must-haves in a woman's closet"**

A renowned name in the world of bespoke gourmet experiences in India, Tasheen Rahimtoola rightfully earned a spot in the *Forbes* 30 Under 30 list for 2022. Having transitioned from finance to hospitality, the entrepreneur today, with Taste Retreat by Tasheen R, curates exclusive meals and experiences for those with discerning gastronomical tastes. The venture also stemmed from her own appetite for the culinary sciences and carefully curated gifts, though she's also expanded to curating end-to-end, theme-based celebrations.

HELLO! speaks with this young businesswoman on her refined taste for travel, luxury and unforgettable gastronomical delights.

Luxury to me is: An emotion. A feeling of elegance, class, self-confidence and ultimate comfort. Contrary to popular belief, I feel like 'luxury' is an impression one can strive for and achieve, without being limited to a price tag.

My professional space: My culinary venture, Taste Retreat by Tasheen R, was conceptualised on the basis of my preference for made-to-order luxury services, experimentation and travel. We try to visualise what the customer has imagined and bring it to life. Our unique idea was recognised further when I made it to the *Forbes* 30 Under 30 List 2022. Our latest conquests include bringing international cuisines and established products to India and expansion of our services to London and Dubai.

The most magnificent customised party I have curated: Curating a sit-down dinner for a 25th birthday remains

Dressed in a sequined bodysuit with a pair of shorts from Nikhil Thampi, Tasheen completes the look with a Chanel cuff and heels, and oversized pearl earrings from Anaash (left)

Bold and quirky with undertones of classy, Tasheen sports a denim co-ord set from Moonray, teamed with Aquazzura heels and Fendi earrings (right)

PARIS
let's travel
FR

Incoming

Tasheen looks chic in a bling skirt and sheer shirt from Sonam Parmar Jhawar. A bag from L'alingi, Zara platform heels and Chanel jewellery complement her style

> **"My style is an extension of my personality – bold, outgoing and quirky, with consistent undertones of classy"**

one of my most favourite memorable and luxurious experiences. Inspired by London's renowned Elan Café, it consisted of a glamorous menu with décor to match, and an eight-course meal, with the entire setup and décor inspired by the floral decadence of the restaurant. Each course was a recreation of the birthday girl's favourite culinary memories and dishes from different restaurants from around the world.

My tips to create an out-of-the-box luxe experience: 1. Let your imagination run wild. To be different, you must think differently. So tap into your mind and use your imagination! 2. Create your own trend. If done right, you could be a trendsetter yourself! Instead of relying on what's popular on social media, tap into your creativity.

My most luxe experiences: There are two things I've had the privilege of experiencing, which definitely go down as my favourite luxurious experiences. The first was being invited to the Louis Vuitton Men's SS22 show at Paris Fashion Week. The second was the dining experience at Osteria Francescana in Modena, Italy, where Chef Massimo Bottura is known for serving unique recreations of classic Italian fare — an unforgettable experience that pleases both the eyes and the taste buds, with modern, art-like iconic dishes.

The most extravagant travel destinations: Paris, Fiji, Seychelles and the Maldives. All provide a completely different experience but are luxury destinations I'd revisit in a heartbeat.

My favourite high-end labels: Zimmerman and Helmut Lang for their ready-to-wear clothing, Mach & Mach and Amina Muaddi for shoes, Loewe, Jacquemus and L'alingi for bags, and Chanel and Grainne Morton for jewellery and accessories.

Best winter buys: Knee-high, classic black winter boots. A knit, cashmere, mohair, or wool-blend blanket (there are some amazing ones by Loewe, Erdem and Alanui) to add a luxe feel to the living area of your home. And the 'chunky sweater'. There's nothing more comfortable and effortlessly chic than wearing a cosy chunky sweater in winter!

Hotels that embody luxury to me: Park Hotel Vitznau in Switzerland, and Grand-Hotel du Cap-Ferrat, a Four Seasons property in France.

Three must-haves in a woman's closet: A signature lip colour, a signature scent or perfume and, most importantly, her confidence!

My style icons: Anna Wintour, Victoria Beckham and Mom. Growing up, I noticed my mother Azmina's sense of style and was inspired to evolve my own before I even knew who global style icons were!

My personal style: Is an extension of my personality — bold, outgoing and quirky, with consistent undertones of classy.

My most precious belonging: Is an heirloom, an original diamond-weave pashmina shawl. This belonged to my grandmother and has been passed down to me. Hand-woven, with minimal embroidery, it still maintains its luxurious quality. In this day and age, it would be valued at a very high price. Though what truly makes it luxurious is the precious value it holds to me as a descendant.

My best culinary experiences: Le Louis XV, Alain Ducasse's restaurant in Monte Carlo, Eleven Madison Park in New York and Massimo Bottura's Osteria Francescana in Modena, Italy.

INTERVIEW: NAYARE ALI
PHOTOS: ASHIMA MEHRA
FASHION EDITOR: SONAM POLADIA
JUNIOR STYLIST: ANUSHREE SARDESAI
MAKEUP: SANDHYA AGARWAL
HAIR: SHIKHA VARDHAN
FOOD CURATION & TABLE SETTING:
TASTE RETREAT BY TASHEEN R

CHETAN & RISHI KAJARIA

DYNAMIC AND PROGRESSIVE, THIS DUO STANDS OUT FOR THE OLD-WORLD GRACE WITH WHICH THEY CONDUCT THEMSELVES AND THEIR BUSINESS, WITH AN UNWAVERING MORAL COMPASS. HELLO! SITS DOWN FOR A TÊTE-À-TÊTE WITH THE BROTHERS WHO HELM KAJARIA CERAMICS AS JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS, PICKING THEIR BRAINS ON ETHICS, CUT-THROAT COMPETITION AND THE IMPORTANCE OF PERSEVERANCE TO MAKE IT BIG

Chetan & Rishi Kajaria (right), joint managing directors at Kajaria Ceramics, believe in open communication both at home and at work

LEADERS WHO LEAD

by

Neeva Jain

Featuring India's most inspiring women and men who set an example for innovation and leadership in their fields

Share some of the trade secrets that helped you take the Kajaria brand to such great heights.

Chetan: Our beloved parents ingrained the right values in us. They gave us our space, but taught us how to use our freedom judiciously. They gave us authority, but taught us to use it responsibly. These enshrined the importance of family in our minds. These factors kept us rooted in our conventional culture in these contemporary times.

Rishi: Education is the other key factor that helped us in our journey at Kajaria. We were fortunate to have graduated from some of the most reputed global institutes. These years helped us immensely in gaining insights into global trends. We've been able to leverage this international exposure to improve several aspects within our organisation.

In the cut-throat competitive world we live in, how do you both complement each other and have the other's back?

Chetan: We are *on* each other's back and *have* each other's back! It's a fascinating equation we share. I'm at the top of what I do. He's at the top of what he does. We are two intensely competitive individuals who take immense pride in each other's success.

Rishi: We have our unique business styles. We talk. We share. We agree. Most importantly, we agree to disagree, and we are fine with that. The best part of our relationship is that we communicate freely.

Chetan: The open communication channel helps us address issues as and when they arise. It also helps imbibe winning strategies from each other.

Who were the primary influences in your lives?

Chetan: My father has been my guiding star. He's a self-made man who rose from a humble background to a position of great respect. His one piece of advice that is, and will always remain, etched in my memory is, 'Never forget where you came from.' This simple mindset allows him to remain grounded despite the dizzying heights he's at now. I see this every day in the way he interacts with people across the board, from dealers and office staff to the management and even employees on the shop floor.

> **"Every day, we need to become better at what we do. This all-encompassing philosophy guides the entire Kajaria family"**
> ***– Chetan Kajaria***

Rishi: One trait of my father that impresses me the most is his ability to respect people for who they are. That respect allows and empowers him to give authority to people to take on projects, do things their way, be patient, and accept that sometimes, they will go wrong.

Chetan: Honesty is another trait close to his heart. He strictly follows this path, no matter what. In business processes, dealings, financials — in everything. He says whatever you do, you should be able to look at yourself in the mirror without feeling a sense of guilt. This is his filter.

Rishi: These value systems were ingrained in us not by force, but by watching the man living by them day-in and day-out.

Where would you say your happy place is? What's your definition of downtime in this manic world?

Chetan: My happy place is my family. After office, that's my priority. It's quite a pleasurable experience to grow old with family. You will have bagloads of stories to tell your grandchildren. Also, I love to travel to new places, see new things, gain new experiences… I do that with my family. Going out with them every year is a top priority. I try to have my 'me time', too, where I drown myself in the world of books.

Rishi: Family is like the pivot. The good, when shared with family, becomes better. Likewise, the bad

For both brothers, their father Ashok Kajaria is the ultimate example of hard work, perseverance & staying grounded

> **"Our parents ingrained the right values in us. They gave us our space, but taught us how to use our freedom judiciously. They gave us authority, but taught us to use it responsibly"**
> ***– Chetan Kajaria***

> **"Surround yourself with good people. Characters who are committed and willing go the distance to showcase the fire in their belly. It makes a world of difference"**
> ***– Rishi Kajaria***

becomes a little less so. It's a happy place to go back to after a packed day at work. Travelling and sports are two things that are close to my heart. They rejuvenate my senses completely.

Your advice that can help guide and light a spark in gen-next entrepreneurs.

Chetan: There's no substitute for hard work and no shortcuts to the top. You have to persevere and give it your all. You have to believe in yourself, realising that not everything will work on day one. There will be challenges and disappointments, but stay calm to find the way out. Like my father says: bad times are a passing phase; they only come to test your mettle.

Rishi: In today's competitive and fast-paced world, you need to act fast because opportunities never go abegging. Either you take it, or someone else definitely will. You need to have the courage to make mistakes and the chest to face the challenge. It's the ones who can overcome challenges that survive and succeed. Also, surround yourself with good people. Characters who are committed and willing go the distance to showcase the fire in their belly. It makes a world of difference.

> **"Family is like the pivot. The good, when shared with family, becomes better. Likewise, the bad becomes a little less so"**
> ***– Rishi Kajaria***

Tell us about your journey that led to such exponential growth.

Chetan: My journey has been very exciting. I joined the company in 2000. For the initial few years, I went through the grind of picking up the ropes and understanding the nuances of the business. After settling in, I headed the ceramic wall and floor tiles vertical. We upped business operations every year, with larger capacities, expansive presence, an expanded product basket, etc.

Rishi: My journey at Kajaria began in 2002. I spearhead the vitrified tiles vertical. It's the variant that has gained credence in advanced nations. I also saw an opportunity in the bathware segment and launched Kajaria Bathware.

Chetan: We followed up with our plywood and laminates vertical. So Kajaria, which is now synonymous with tiles, is well on its way to becoming a reputed and recognised home products brand.

Rishi: The other crucial component in our growth is our pan-India presence. We moved with speed to establish a manufacturing presence in other regions.

Chetan: As we extended our footprint from north to west — we're now headed south — our dealer base grew. Our product development became more customised to regional tastes. Our shelf occupancy improved considerably. Our volumes surged.

Rishi: There's always something big happening at Kajaria. Brownfield expansions, joint ventures, new technology, a new business vertical or product line… The atmosphere is always charged! This single factor has and continues to push us out of our comfort zone. It works like magic.

Chetan: I agree; the zeal is contagious! It compels people to come to work.

There must be pride in being a 'Made in India' brand with such global prominence. What were your highpoints?

Chetan: The company's first acquisition of a ceramic tile plant in Gujarat in 2011 was my first high. It was followed by a joint venture to produce ceramic wall tiles in Andhra Pradesh in 2012. The next was when we entered the wood panel industry in 2018, and most recently, the joint venture in Telangana for a ceramic floor tile plant that will provide us more efficient access to the south.

Rishi: 1. Our first vitrified tile manufacturing line. Watching the concept transform into a tile in hand, manufactured at one's own facility, was surreal; 2. The commissioning of our Srikalahasti facility in Tirupati. It was a long-cherished dream that finally transformed into reality; 3. Our synergic diversification into bathware, which transformed Kajaria from a tile manufacturer to a renowned name in bathroom solutions.

There must have been bumps along the way, especially in the past couple of years…

C&R: Covid-19, especially the second wave, brought in significant disruption and considerable pain. It affected several members of the Kajaria family — our dealers, partners, employees…. The fear of what could happen was understandably terrifying. It was a first for the entire world, let alone us.

During the first wave, there was a complete lockdown, and we had to abide by it. But the second wave was tricky. The virus was exceedingly virulent. Phased and partial-to-complete lockdowns were put in place. It hit rural India even worse, which increased the fear multifold. From a business perspective, uncertainty was at its peak. It was near impossible to plan for the next day or week.

How do you plan to navigate an empire in today's fractional economic doomsday scenario?

Chetan: Kajaria is a battle-hardened warship that continues to sail through choppy waters. Today, there's inflationary pressure, where the Russia-Ukraine war plays one of the factors. Tomorrow, it could be something else. This points to one fact: every day, we need to become better at what we do. This all-encompassing philosophy guides the entire Kajaria family.

Rishi: Business is primarily about managing challenges. And challenges will persist every year in some form or the other. In the recent past, it was Covid. What's visible on the horizon is inflationary pressure, which could impact profitability. Interestingly, every challenge we faced over the years has only made the organisation stronger. As a result, growth has become a natural corollary.

PHOTOS: ANIL CHAWLA
CREATIVE DIRECTION & STYLING: AMBER TIKARI

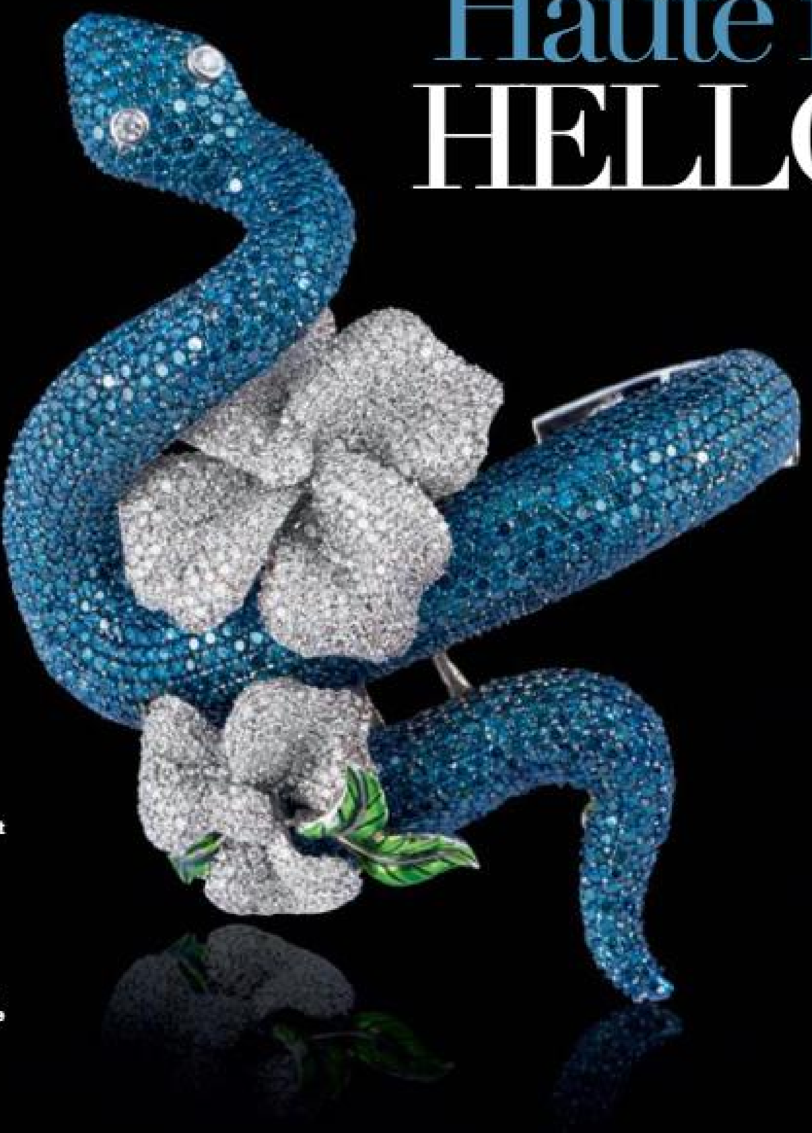
RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group
spencer's
TRADE
EXPLORE THE FUTURE
WISDOM
every day
fashion
by
DUKE
STARDUST
www.spencers.in
GET IT ON Google Play
Download on the App Store

HELLO!

Trends

THE HAUTEST NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF LUXURY

Haute in HELLO!

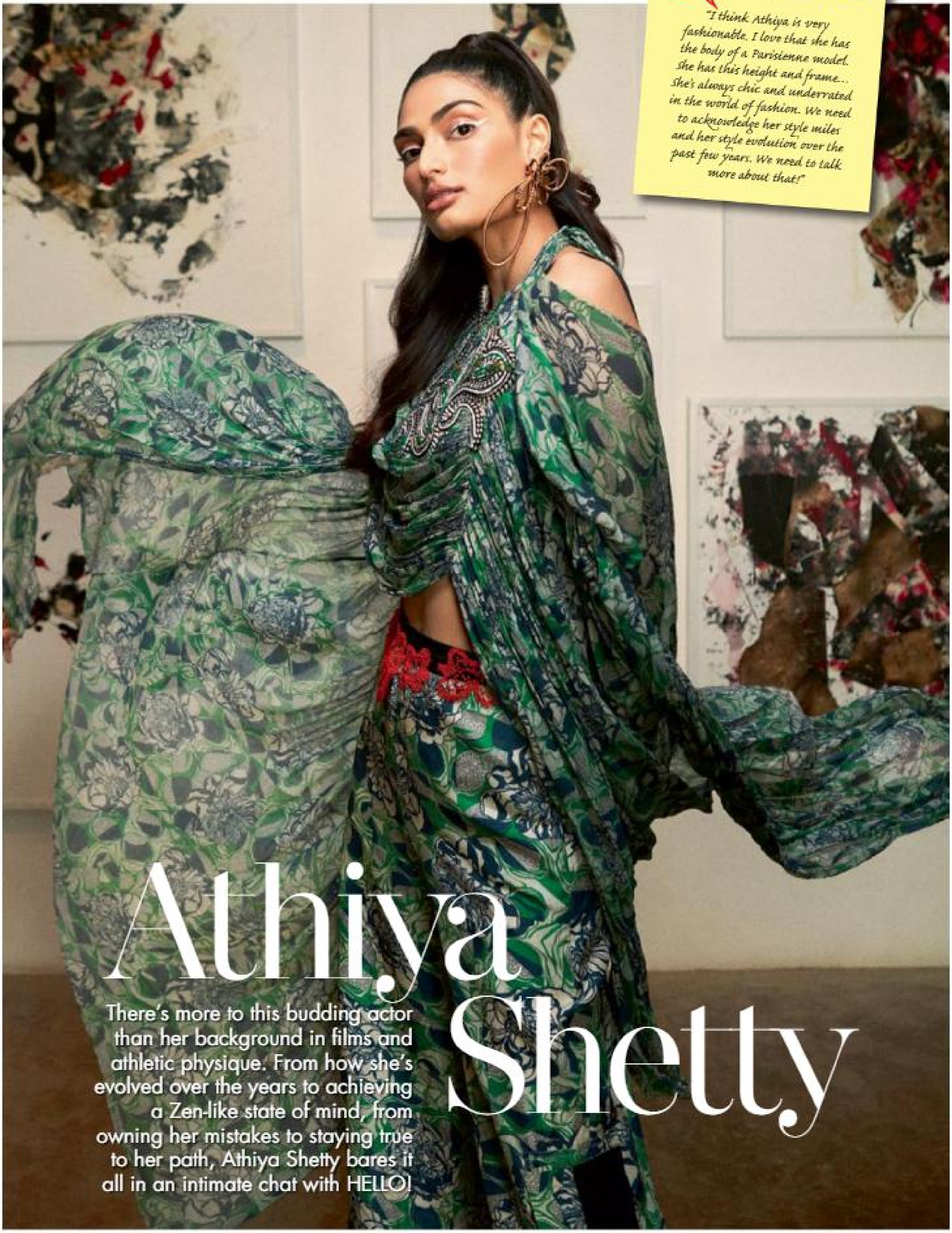


The statement Ikebana Serpent Cuff by Jewels By Queenie **is the accessory you need to stand out at any end-of-the-year parties. Made in 18-karat gold, this exquisite piece is studded with 25.65-karat blue diamonds, further embellished with flowers in 9.28-karat white diamonds and green enamel leaves. Price on request; jewelsbyqueenie.com**

Scan the QR code to stay up to date with the latest in the world of fashion.

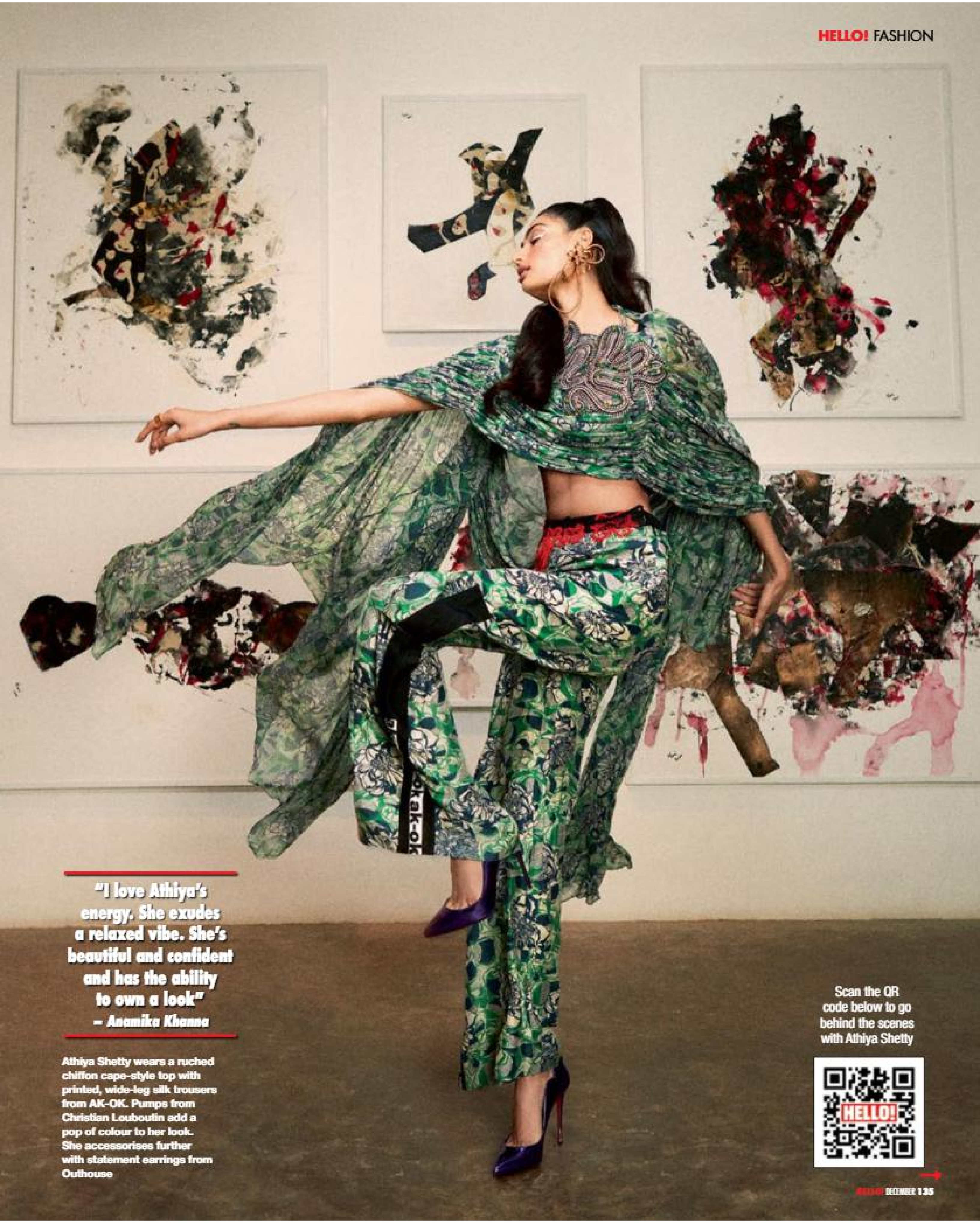
KJO KOMMENTS

"I think Athiya is very fashionable. I love that she has the body of a Parisienne model. She has this height and frame... She's always chic and underrated in the world of fashion. We need to acknowledge her style miles and her style evolution over the past few years. We need to talk more about that!"



Athiya Shetty

There's more to this budding actor than her background in films and athletic physique. From how she's evolved over the years to achieving a Zen-like state of mind, from owning her mistakes to staying true to her path, Athiya Shetty bares it all in an intimate chat with HELLO!



> **"I love Athiya's energy. She exudes a relaxed vibe. She's beautiful and confident and has the ability to own a look"**
> ***– Anamika Khanna***

Athiya Shetty wears a ruched chiffon cape-style top with printed, wide-leg silk trousers from AK-OK. Pumps from Christian Louboutin add a pop of colour to her look. She accessorises further with statement earrings from Outhouse

Scan the QR code below to go behind the scenes with Athiya Shetty

→

> **"Anamika Khanna is an amazing person, and that translates into her creations. I love her latest collection not just in terms of design but even for its silhouettes. She makes every Indian woman look so good"**

This patchwork denim jacket from AK-OK is a testament to Athiya's bold sense of style

As you enter the narrow bylanes of Kala Ghoda, a South Mumbai neighbourhood replete with high-end designer stores, the minimalist signboard with 'Anamika Khanna' across it is hard to miss. Inside, quietly seated amid the customary chaos of a photo shoot, is the stately figure of Athiya Shetty, her poise evident. A popular muse among designers, she breezes through multiple costume changes for HELLO!, dressed in the vibrant creations of AK-OK, a new line helmed by Anamika and her twins, Viraj and Vishesh.

Athiya is completely at ease as she puts on a show for the lensman. So much so that one wonders why she isn't in international campaigns or on the runway more often.

"I got asked about it while pursuing my film course at New York Film Academy," she shares. "I was a 17-year-old from Mumbai and received multiple offers, but I knew even back then that it wouldn't have brought me complete joy. Although, I must confess: I love working in front of the camera, be it to act or for fashion shoots."

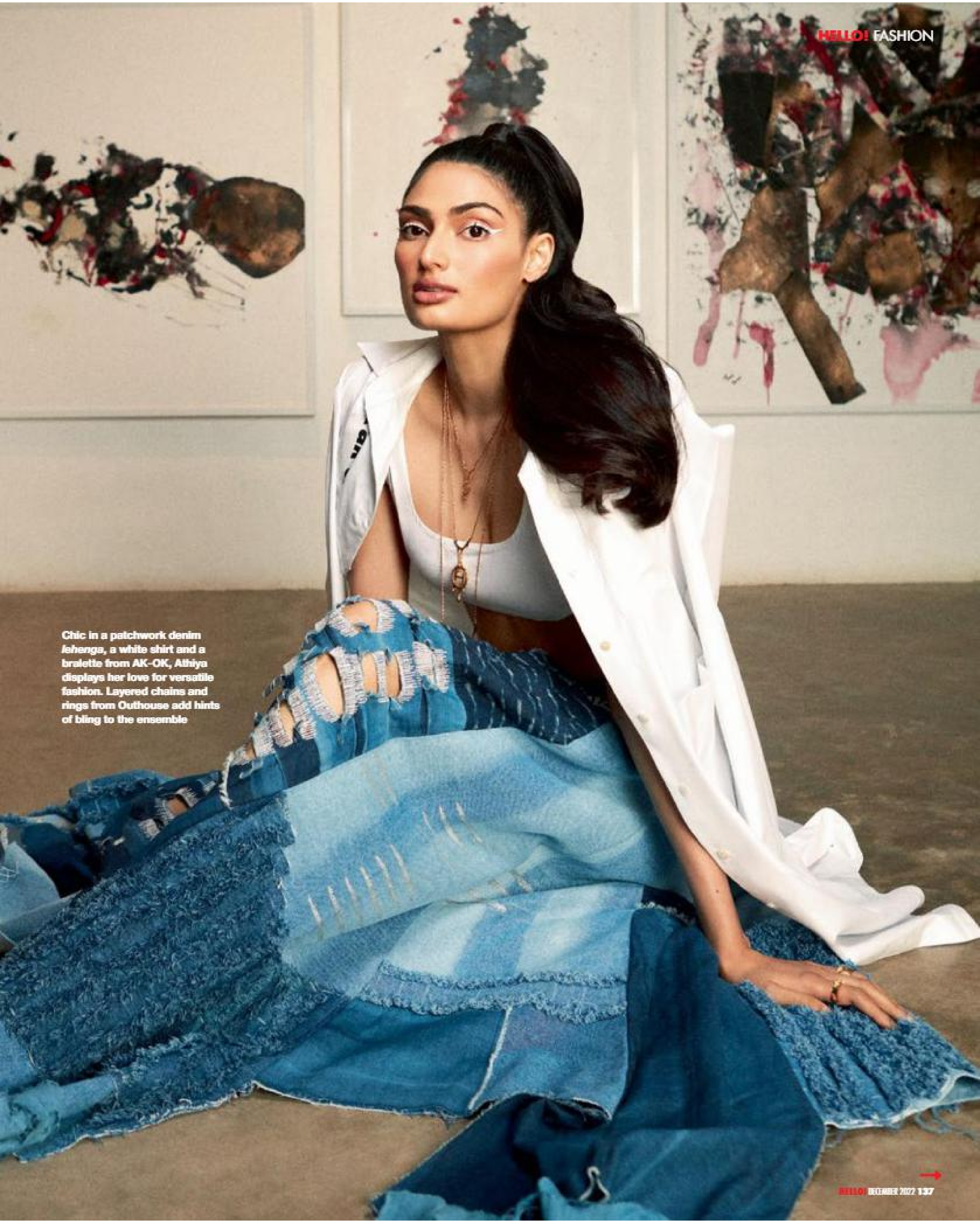
Athiya nails playing muse like a pro: her eyes courting the camera, her lips flashing a hint of a smile, her body in sync with her countenance. As she completely owns her looks, one can sense her appreciation for the outfits she sports.

"I've always loved Anamika Khanna as a designer. She's an amazing person, and that translates into her creations. I love her latest collection not just in terms of design but even for its silhouettes. She makes every Indian woman look so good. Her outfits fit me like a glove, and I look so powerful in them."

And it's not just the muse; the designer, too, is just as besotted by her. Says Anamika: "I love Athiya's energy. She exudes a relaxed vibe, which is in sync with AK-OK's latest collection. She's beautiful and confident and has the ability to own a look, which is what AK-OK stands for."

The face of numerous brands and a fashion icon, Athiya says she looks up to her *nani* and mum as her idols.

"As cliché as it may sound, I emulate their style. My mum has been



Chic in a patchwork denim *lehenga*, a white shirt and a bralette from AK-OK, Athiya displays her love for versatile fashion. Layered chains and rings from Outhouse add hints of bling to the ensemble

→

> "Fitness has nothing to do with your weight or how slim you are. It's a lifestyle I adopted from my father, watching him work out religiously"

Dressed in a cropped jacket with floral details and a draped skirt from AK-OK, Athiya is cool and confident. Velvet boots from Christian Louboutin and a statement choker from Outhouse add glamorous touches to her outfit

"In the past two years, I spent more time with myself, which made me more self-aware. This sense of tranquillity now reflects even in my work"

"People have this misconception that industry kids know how things function in Bollywood. But everyone has their own journey, and it does not matter whose child you are. The highs and lows are a part and parcel of every actor's life"

designing clothes for the past 30 years, and she always looked up to her mother. I love their simplicity and how they make any outfit look so artistic and well put together," she gushes.

For this young star, fitness is a way of life. She may be genetically blessed with a slim frame, but she doesn't take it for granted.

"Fitness has nothing to do with your weight or how slim you are. It's a significant part of my regime. It's a lifestyle I adopted from my father, watching him work out religiously. Even my grandparents are truly fitness conscious."

"I'm also an outdoor person and enjoy being amidst nature," adds Athiya, who heads to her farmhouse in Khandala when time permits, to spend the day simply watching television or hanging out with her dogs.

Being in close commune with nature has a soothing effect on most. Perhaps why this budding actor has a serene vibe about her. She puts our speculation to rest, confessing to having adopted a Zen-like state of mind over the years.

"Internally, I wouldn't say I'm as relaxed as I look. But over the years, I've become a lot calmer, which was a progression of maturity. As you grow older, you get more comfortable with yourself. In the past two years, I spent more time with myself, which made me more self-aware. This sense of tranquillity now reflects even in my work."

There's a mellowness in this 30-year-old lady that's uncommon in one so young. Athiya likes to go with the flow, and by her own admission, isn't overly ambitious or a believer in chasing fame.

"I enjoy whatever comes my way," says Athiya, who has five films to her name since her 2015 debut with *Hero*.

The movies that followed — *Mubarakan* and *Motichoor Chaknachoor* — may not have propelled her career to great heights, but Athiya is at peace with her progress. She also confesses to being exceptionally choosy, a trait she developed as a child.

"As a kid, I was very particular about giving everything my 150 percent; otherwise, I didn't think there was a point to doing anything," she shrugs. "And it's not just about the big things. I apply the same approach to even the most basic aspects of my life."

"When I began shooting for *Hero*, I was 21. At that stage, there's a tendency to chase success. You have a plan in mind and goals to achieve. But as you evolve in life, you realise that it's more about the journey than the destination."

"This industry and my career taught me so much about myself as a person. It's taken a lot of inner work for me to achieve this mental state of bliss. I'm neither extremely social, nor do I put myself out there for the world to see. I only open up with my team. But if it's a new set up, it takes me time to get comfortable regardless."

Reluctant to follow the tried-and-tested route of networking to build contacts and perhaps sign more films, Athiya has a more fatalistic approach to her career.

"What comes to you has a lot to do with destiny and some good luck. If it's meant for me, it will come to me, and if it's not in my power, it will not," she says.

"I don't have any regrets because my mistakes shaped me into the person I am. Had I not seen some of the hardship I have, I wouldn't have been able to evolve the way I have"

However, she's honest enough to admit that she's gone through her moments of desperation, times when she has longed to achieve something significant both in her personal and professional space.

"Desperation is a very real aspect of life. At some point of time or the other, we have all yearned for something. I don't look at it negatively though. It's a phase when you want something, and as time passes, you either realise that you don't really need it, or are aware that it was not worth the struggle."

"People have this misconception that industry kids know how things function in Bollywood. But everyone has their own journey, and it does not matter whose child you are. The highs and lows are a part and parcel of each and every actor's life."

Her innate wisdom also stems from having grown up with a 90s' star for a father. Suniel and Mana Shetty always ensured a stable home environment for Athiya and her younger brother, Ahan.

"I learnt from my dad that no Friday film release should affect us as a family. I never knew the difference between a hit and a flop because my parents camouflaged a success or failure and always created a semblance of normalcy at home. We led a very protected life as children, rarely went to my father's movie sets, and no film magazines were allowed at home."

Given the influences in her life — Athiya is also best friends with Krishna Shroff, actor Jackie Shroff's daughter and Tiger Shroff's sister — it was as good as inevitable that Athiya would choose a career in acting. The seeds were sown in Class 11 when she took up theatre as a subject.

"That's when I realised I love being on stage and the entire creative process involved. I always knew I wanted to do something creative."

And while dad Suniel may have done everything possible to protect her from the harsh realities of the Hindi film industry, he was also apprehensive about how his princess would handle the highs and lows.

"But I don't think he was apprehensive about me wanting to get into films. He simply advised me to stay balanced and not let success get to my head and failure to my heart. He had the same advice for Ahan."

Now that her sibling also made his debut with *Tadap*, we wonder whether Athiya feels the need to protect him.

"Though I was nervous while watching his film and am extremely protective of him, we don't advise each other. Our journeys are different. He's younger to me but more mature."

Athiya is now gearing up for an OTT release, details of which she isn't at liberty to share. As we wind up our chat, we ask her to sum up her journey so far: "I don't think I can rate it. I've made so many mistakes along the way, but I don't have any regrets because it's shaped me into the person I am. Had I not seen some of the hardship I have, I wouldn't have been able to evolve the way I have."

INTERVIEW: NAYARE ALI
PHOTOS: RAHUL JHANGIANI
CREATIVE DIRECTOR:
AVANTIKKA KILACHAND
FASHION EDITOR: SONAM POLADIA
JUNIOR STYLIST:
ANUSHREE SARDESAI
HAIR & MAKEUP: NAMRATA SONI
WARDROBE COURTESY: AK-OK

A millennial style icon, Athiya sports a deconstructed silk blazer with a bralette and matching joggers from AK-OK. Jewellery from Outhouse and pumps from Christian Louboutin complete her look

When Bangkok Beckons

Offering culturally enriched tours to culinary delights and more, the bustling South Asian city is a travel hotspot unlike any other. HELLO! took in all of these sensory experiences on a trip to the Thai capital, as a special guest at an exclusive showing of Gucci's latest high jewellery collection. ***Roohi Oomerbhoy Jaikishan*** *recounts her time there*

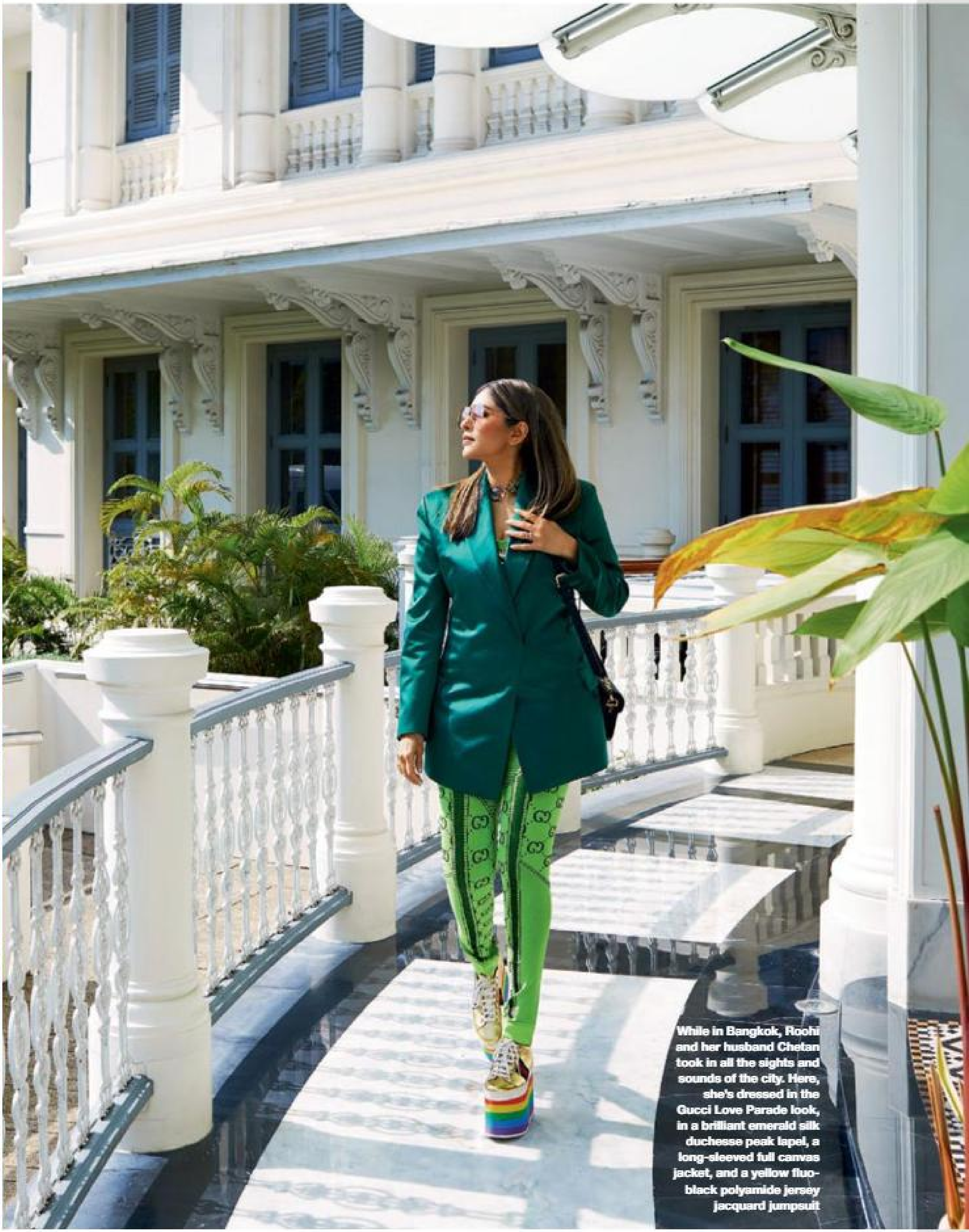
There's nothing quite like waking up to the sight of long-tail boats floating down the Chao Phraya River in Bangkok, catching the beauty of the sun rising or savouring the sight with drinks at sunset. My husband Chetan and I were surrounded by such oriental beauty on a trip to the Thai capital as special invitees for the Gucci High Jewellery preview.

We checked into Bangkok's grand old madame, the Mandarin Oriental, where we soaked up the hotel's illustrious history in the Author's Wing, once a haunt for such eminent writers as Somerset Maugham and Joseph Conrad. While here, we decided to take it slow on our first day and enjoy the evening with a cocktail — or two — at The Bamboo Bar, a historic haunt in the city for lovers of all things music.

HIGH ON GUCCI

On the day of the exhibition, we were geared up for an elaborate experience in signature Gucci style. The luxury label chose the magnificent Phaya Thai Palace on the banks of the Samsen

Dressed head to toe in a Gucci ensemble, including stunning diamond jewellery set in white gold, Roohi strikes a pose at Phaya Thai Palace. The location was adorned with exotic flowers, inspired by the brand's 'Hortus Deliciarium' collection, which means garden of delights. She's accessorised with the Gucci Blondie shoulder bag



While in Bangkok, Roohi and her husband Chetan took in all the sights and sounds of the city. Here, she's dressed in the Gucci Love Parade look, in a brilliant emerald silk duchesse peak lapel, a long-sleeved full canvas jacket, and a yellow fluo-black polyamide jersey jacquard jumpsuit

Roohi and Chetan enjoyed an exclusive sit-down dinner hosted by the label at Bangkok's Phaya Thai Palace. The venue came alive with the artistic pieces of jewellery on display

> **"The Gucci high jewellery collection was exquisite, to say the least. The pieces were embellished with topazes, diamonds, emeralds and spinels, a kaleidoscope of mesmerising colours"**

Canal for the showcase. As we entered the palace, a beautiful space that fuses classic European and Thai architecture, we were transported to a time from a century ago.

The Phaya Thai Palace was the ideal choice for the exhibit, given that it's steeped in history and culture and a popular tourist attraction. It perfectly fit the theme of Gucci's new high jewellery collection, which is rooted in travel and memories, beautiful and mystical, coexisting with the wonders of the world. The collection evokes impressions of Roman ruins, mythical Greece and gorgeous European landscapes — each with a beauty comparable to that of this idyllic location.

The palace entrance was adorned with exotic flowers like a beautiful garden, inspired by the collection titled 'Hortus Deliciarium', which means garden of delights. Each room was decorated with bespoke Gucci carpeting and furniture, complemented further by jewellery-laden cabinets.

The collection on display was exquisite, to say the least. The third one in the Hortus Deliciarum high jewellery line by outgoing Creative Director Alessandro Michele, the edit was presented in five themes, taking onlookers through chapters of a travel diary. The pieces were embellished with vibrant blue topazes, sparkling diamonds, ethereal emeralds and spinels, all a kaleidoscope of mesmerising colours that transport one on an "imaginary grand tour, starting in the mid-19th century and continuing to the 1970s".

For those wondering why Gucci opted to stage its preview in Bangkok, it's because the Thai market of jewellery enthusiasts evolved tremendously over the years, an indication of the South Asian country's growing wealth. Statistics show that Thailand's revenue in the luxury goods industry amounts to US$4.28 billion in 2022 and is expected to grow annually by 6.15 percent (CAGR 2022-2027).

THE BEAUTY OF BANGKOK

Once done with a grand tour of Gucci's stunning new jewellery, the sights and sounds of Bangkok beckoned. We started with a trip to The Grand Palace, the royal complex built in the 18th century by King Rama I, where we marvelled at the incredible murals and gold-roofed buildings adorned with porcelain tiles. Also inside the palatial complex is the Temple of the Emerald Buddha and the Queen Sirikit Museum of Textiles, an absolute gem and a must visit.

Anyone intrigued by Thai silk should make a trip to the Jim Thompson House Museum, which offers guided tours through the day. The traditional wooden Thai house is surrounded by a beautiful garden and filled with the antiques from Asia and Europe that the American businessman — who helped revitalise the Thai silk industry in the 1950s and 1960s — collected over his lifetime.

No travel diary is complete without taking in all the culinary delights a place has to offer. And Bangkok is near synonymous with food! I would surely recommend making a reservation at the Michelin-starred Le Du and Nahm. Among our other favourite fine-dining options were Sorn and Gaa. Bo.lan and Issaya Siamese Club are worth a visit, too. The Foodhall at EmQuartier and Takashimaya at Iconsiam warrant a special mention for the delectable fare on offer.

Rooftop bars are a whole other experience in Bangkok, as here, you not only get to imbibe the innovative drinks on the menu but also take in the spectacular sights this vibrant city has to offer. Above Eleven and Spectrum Lounge & Bar at Hyatt Regency are splendid. For the highest rooftop experience in Bangkok, there's Vertigo at Banyan Tree. The Speakeasy Rooftop Bar at Hotel Muse was another such bar we enjoyed.

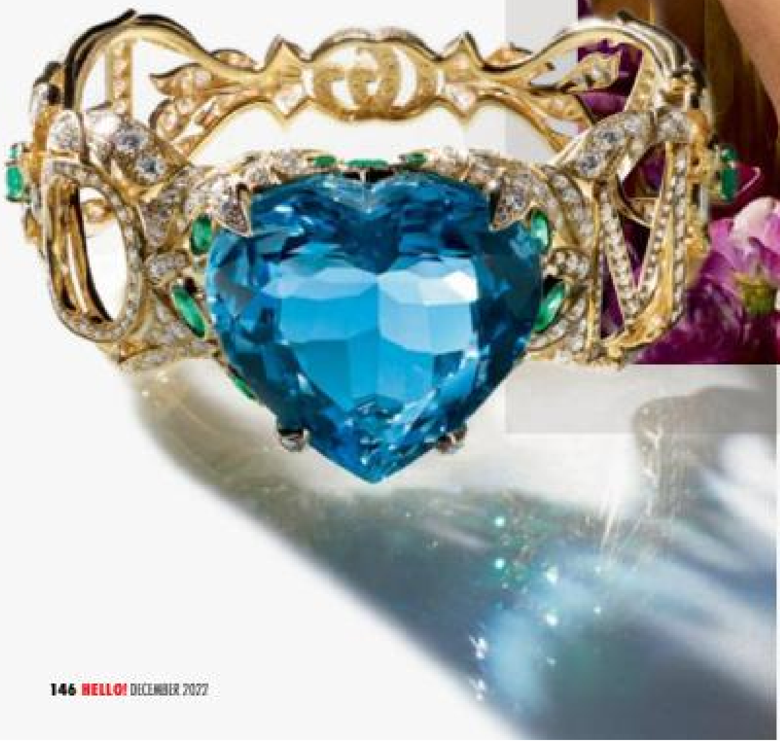
It's no secret that Bangkok is a shopper's paradise. From street shopping to high-end retailers, there's something for every kind of shopping aficionado here. Surely set aside some time to browse through Siam Paragon, Iconsiam and EmQuartier.

While we were put up at the Mandarin Oriental, The Park Hyatt is another favourite for us in BKK. It's an oasis of tranquility designed by the acclaimed firm Yabu Pushelberg and AvroKO, the interior design group responsible for the hotel's glamorous Penthouse Bar + Grill. The reigning aesthetic here is Zen simplicity, a calming and luxurious place to retreat after a day in the bustling city.

Chic in a complete Gucci outfit

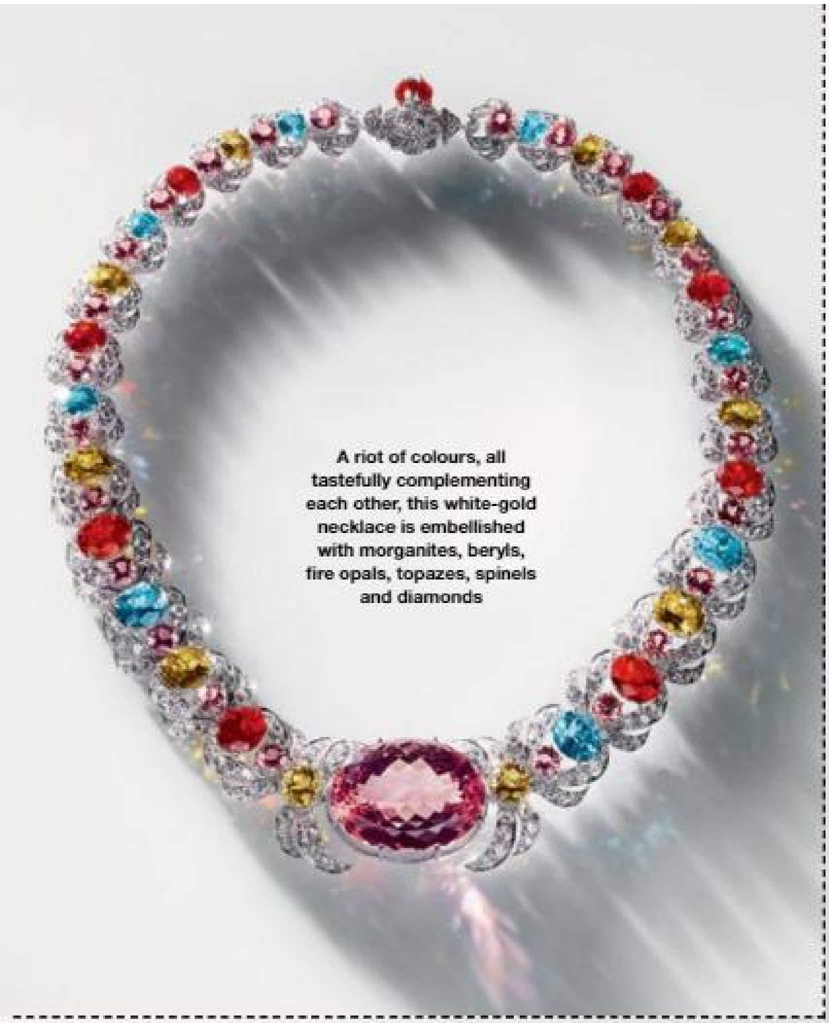
HIGH ON BLING

Gucci's latest collection of high jewellery is a riot of sparkle and opulence in white-gold settings. Dubbed Hortus Deliciarum, the unique, psychedelic pieces of the line are divided into five themes, and embellished with sparkling pink spinels, iridescent blue topazes and colourful cascading diamonds, reflecting virtuosity of craftsmanship and creativity

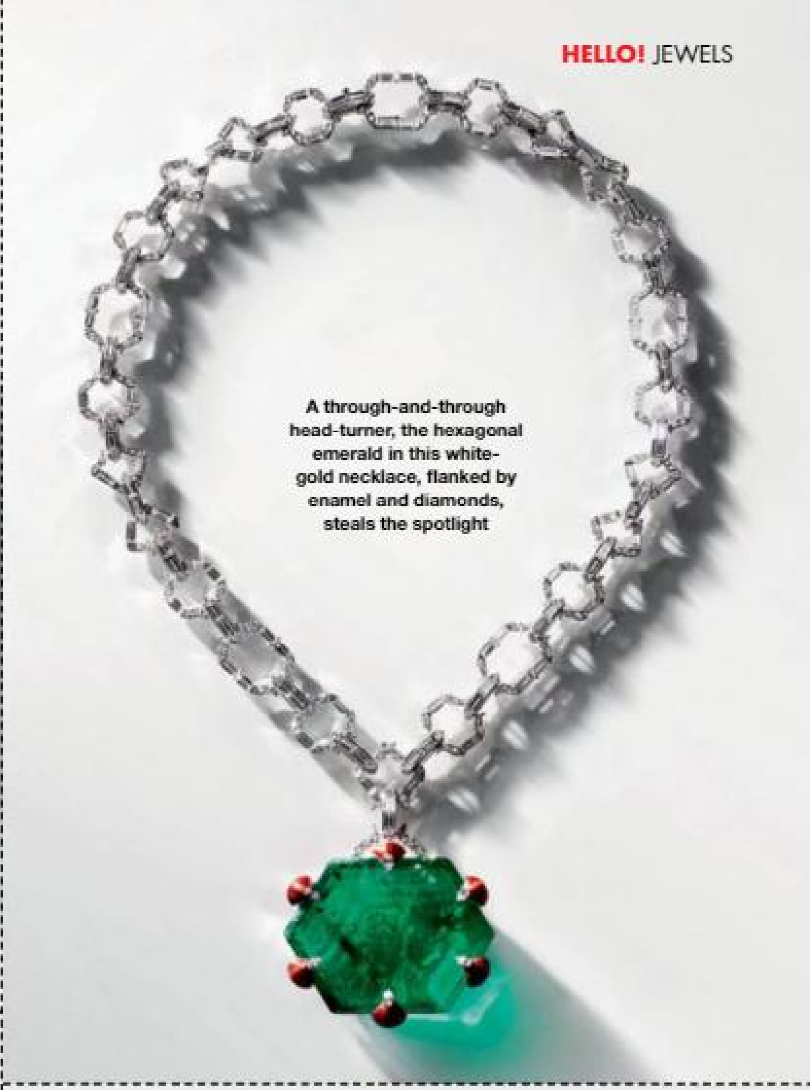


In a new campaign starring Jessica Chastain, Gucci portrays the stories behind the intricately crafted, maximalist pieces of the third Hortus Deliciarum collection

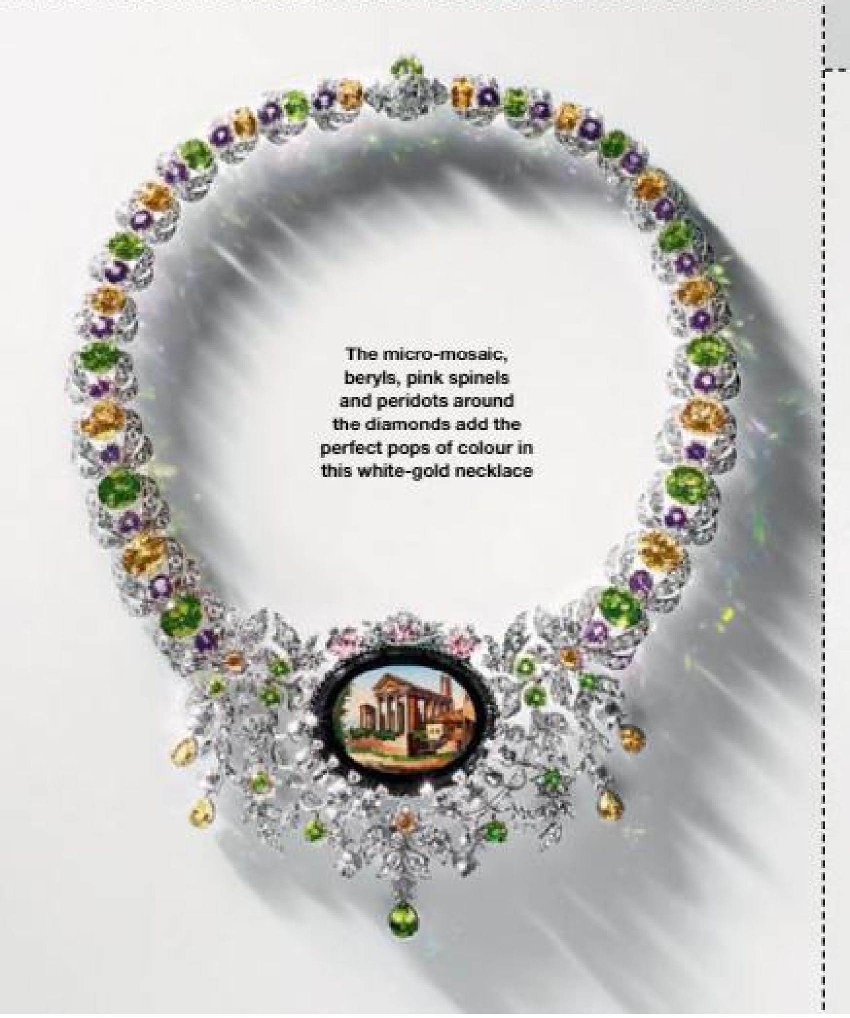
The brand designed this cuff bracelet in yellow gold with ROMA lettering. It's defining feature, however, is the heart-shaped blue topaz, flanked by emeralds and diamonds



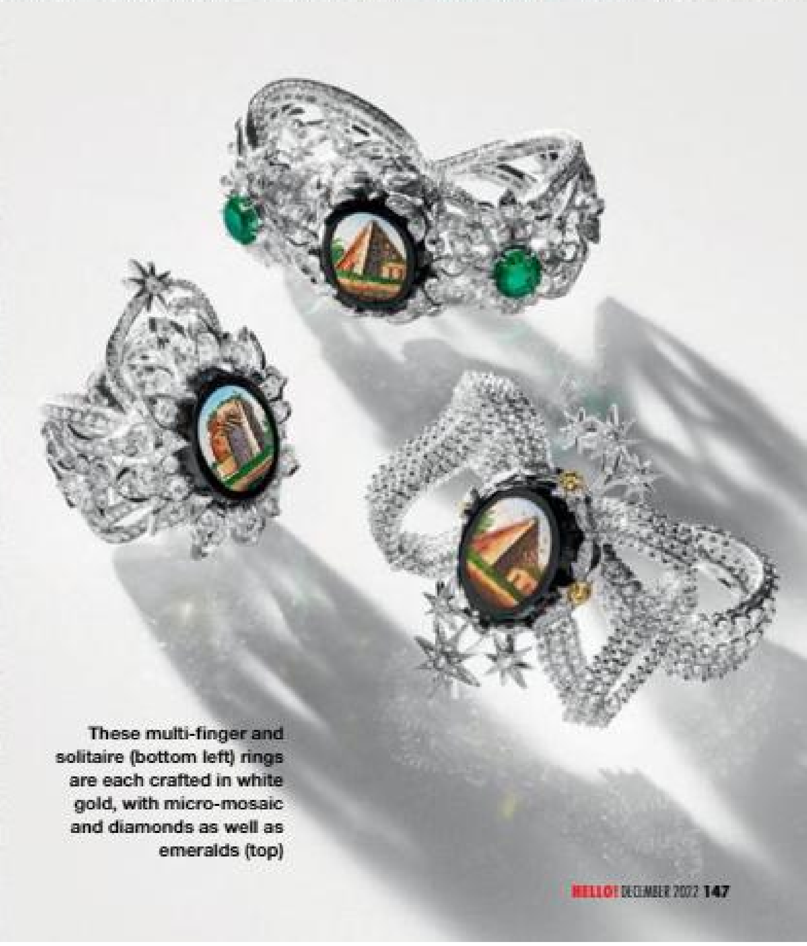
A riot of colours, all tastefully complementing each other, this white-gold necklace is embellished with morganites, beryls, fire opals, topazes, spinels and diamonds



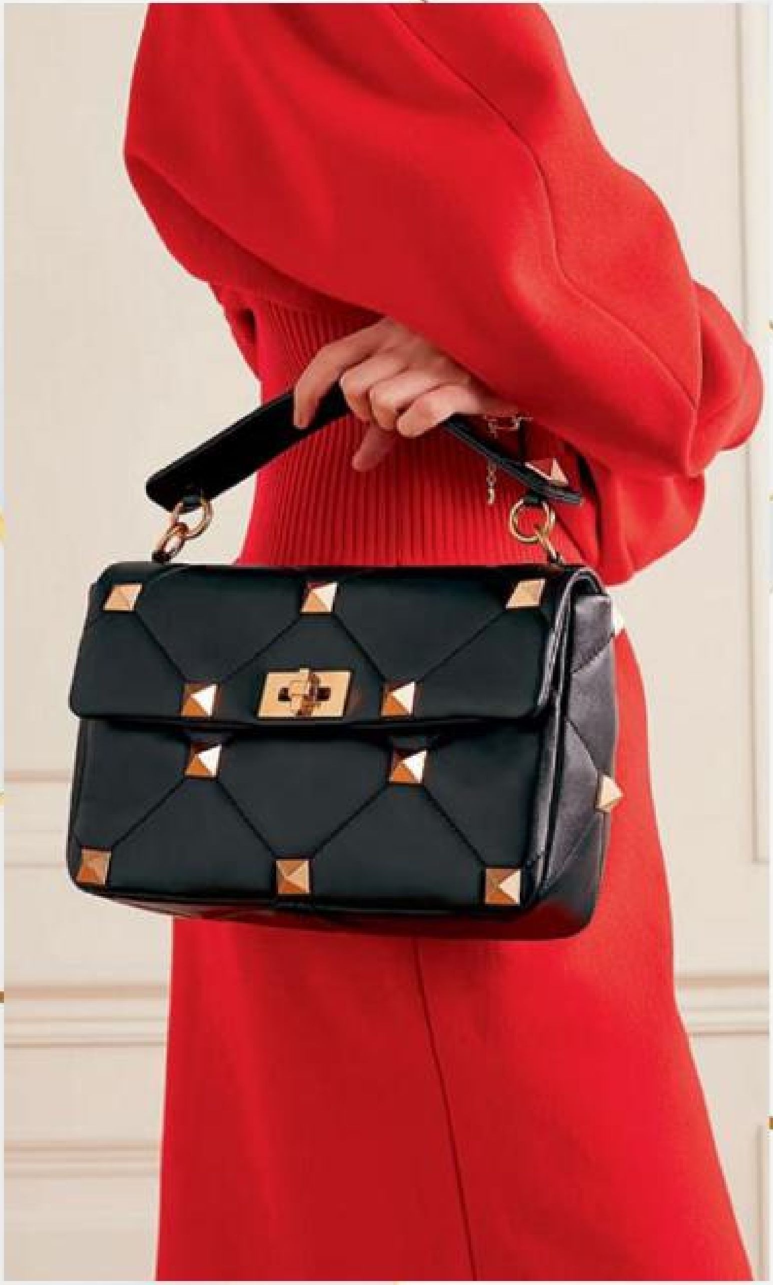
A through-and-through head-turner, the hexagonal emerald in this white-gold necklace, flanked by enamel and diamonds, steals the spotlight



The micro-mosaic, beryls, pink spinels and peridots around the diamonds add the perfect pops of colour in this white-gold necklace



These multi-finger and solitaire (bottom left) rings are each crafted in white gold, with micro-mosaic and diamonds as well as emeralds (top)



FINANCE VIA FASHION

Shopping in the luxury market isn't for the faint of heart. While it may seem a frivolous expenditure to many, they are more than just a fashion statement — they're an investment. Enter, designer handbags! From the Hermès Birkin to the Lady Dior, these accessories have been a hot commodity for decades. HELLO! brings you the most coveted ones that are exclusive collectible assets

VALENTINO ROMAN STUD

If the longevity of Valentino's signature Rockstuds are anything to go by, the newer, evolved XL Roman Stud is sure to stand the test of time. As the name suggests, the collection looked to the past for inspiration, with the pyramid-shaped studs resembling the frontdoors of wealthy Roman homes. Be it the top-handle bag, shoulder bag or quilted tote, each variety from the Roman Stud edit — they retail at over $3,550 — is immediately recognisable as a Valentino modern-classic with a visually strong brand DNA, making them among the bags with the highest resale value and therefore, a great investment.

LADY DIOR

As iconic as the princess who catapulted it to cult status, the Lady Dior continues to be one of the luxury label's most coveted designs. Initially called the Chouchou, Dior baptised the top-handle bag after Princess Diana after it became her favourite arm candy mid 90s. Since then, it's been reincarnated into a myriad of finishes and sizes, like the Micro Lady Dior Bag, and today, basic iterations range from $3,000 to over $4,000. While classic, medium-sized bags in black, beige and dark blue have the best chance of holding their value, limited-edition ones interpreted by artists like Lee Bul, John Giorno and Spencer Sweeney are rare and valuable, too.

LOUIS VUITTON NEVERFULL

High on fashion and equally practical, the Louis Vuitton Neverfull is a go-to classic and the perfect companion for busy days. Despite being introduced only in 2007, it's become one of LV's most successful bags, flaunting the brand's iconic monogram or chequered print. The tote comes in endless material options, limited editions and special artist collaborations. The best part: it's worth every penny. From just $645 in 2007, it's expected to surpass $2,400 by 2025.

GUCCI MARMONT

With a distinctive '70s-inspired GG monogram on the front, the Marmont is a soft, structured and versatile classic that comes in a multitude of colours, shapes and sizes. Its popularity aside, there's no doubt that the bag — one of Alessandro Michele's best designs — has climbed the echelons of fashion. Once sold at $1980, the GG Marmont Small Matelassé Shoulder Bag now retails for over $2,500! The super mini version is an especially good bet, given that it comes with a 107 percent average retention value on the resale market.

HERMÈS BIRKIN

Here's one that needs no introduction. Both exclusive and elusive, given the years-long waitlist, the Hermès Birkin is the pinnacle of luxury handbags, with a hefty price tag of anywhere between $60,000 and $200,000 — sometimes higher! For instance, the 2010 Matte Himalaya Niloticus crocodile diamond Birkin, with 18-karat white gold and diamond hardware, was auctioned for $379,261 at Christie's. And the Fuchsia Diamond-Studded Birkin, again with 18-karat white gold hardware, cost $222,000.

PRADA CLEO

Launched as recently as 2020, the Prada Cleo Small Leather Shoulder Bag was an instant hit — especially for those who hold '90s minimalism close to their heart. A polished adaptation of the brand's signature re-issued Nylon Mini Bag, it's sleek and unencumbered, featuring the signature Prada logo on a rounded construction that gives the hobo bag a light and soft look in a dozen colours. Starting at over $2,050, the Cleo is a classic Prada with staying power and is, no doubt, a smart investment piece that will last in your closet for at least the next two decades.

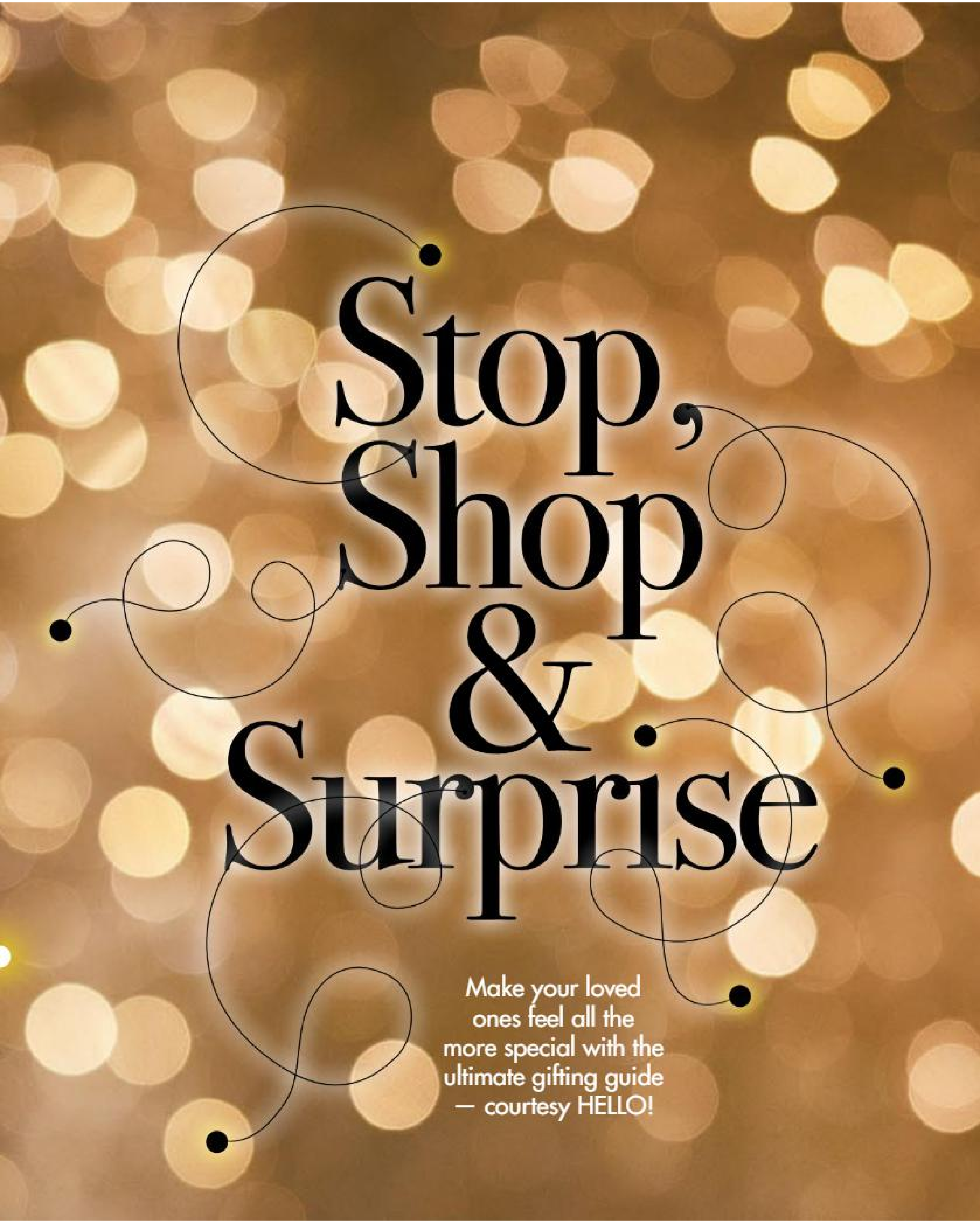
FENDI BAGUETTE

Debuted in 1997, the Fendi Baguette is now in its third decade of production and boasts around a thousand variations of the design. The newer iterations cost between $3,100 and $9,500, but the older pieces make for even more covetable items. Its iconic status makes it a promising luxury investment — while Fendi bags on average retain 115 percent of their value, the Baguette variant with the label's Zucca canvas is especially worth the money as it carries 135 percent of its retail value in the resale market. If this doesn't prompt you to 'add to cart' now, we don't know what will!

CHANEL FLAP BAG

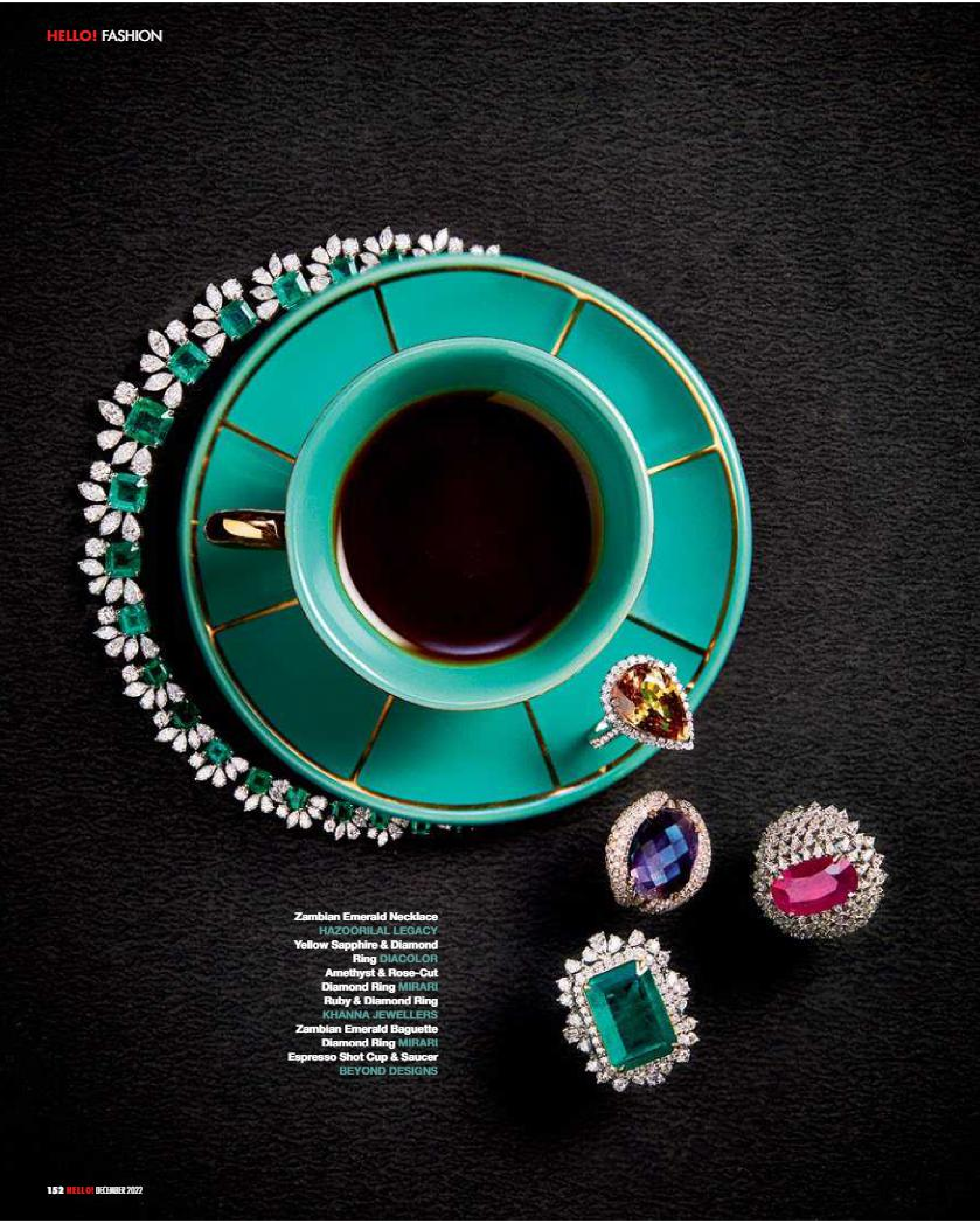
It's classic, versatile, available in a number of varieties and a truly great investment. To give you an idea of why, the price of a Chanel Medium Classic Flap Bag rose from $1,150 in 1990 to $8,800 in 2021. While there's some debate around the market prices of pre-loved accessories, a Chanel bag in a well-established style and neutral colour will retain its value for years to come — even more so because these mini single flaps are limited in supply. You can also look at the Classic Flap 2.55 or the Wallet on Chain.

TEXT: SHRADDHA CHOWDHURY

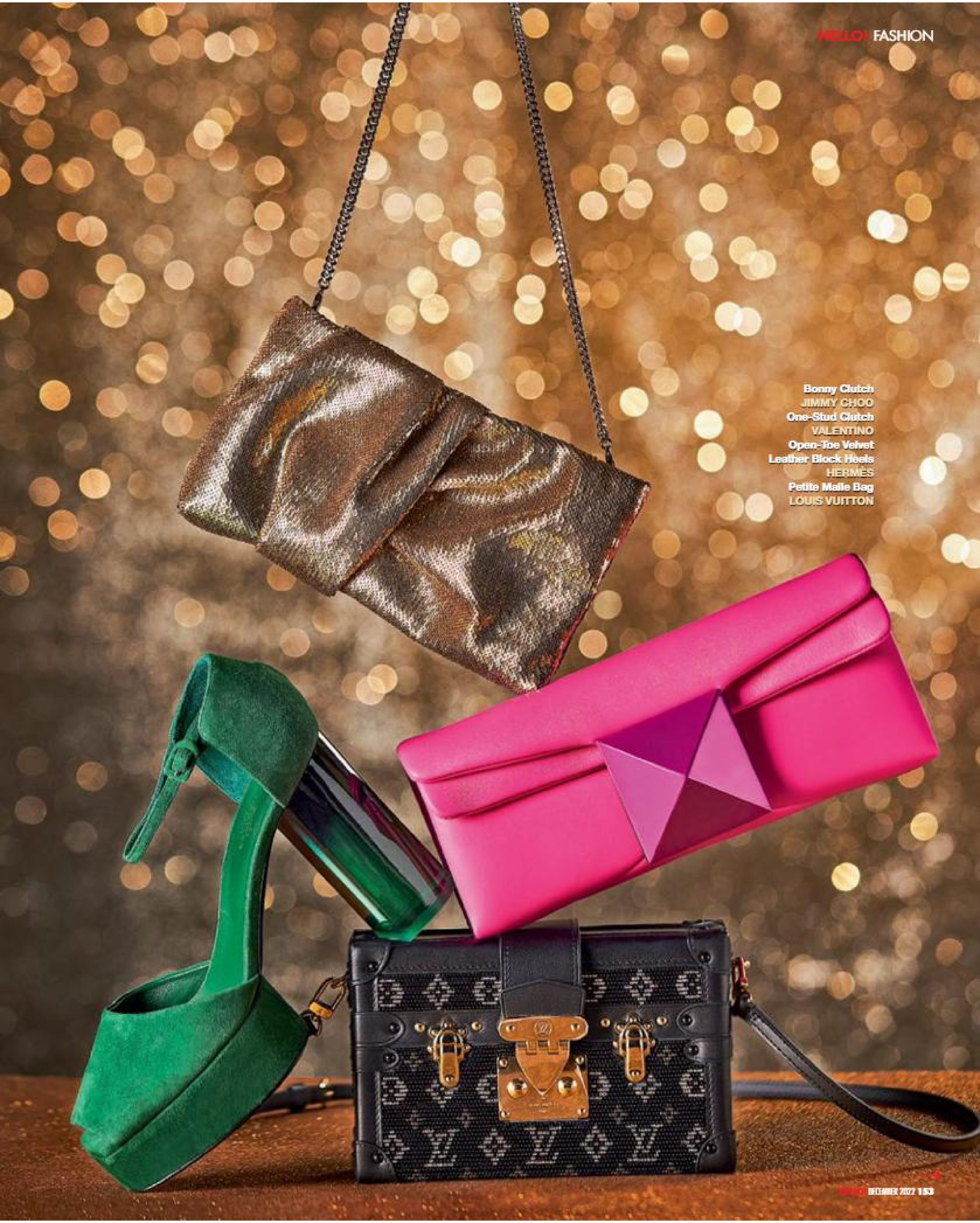


Stop, Shop & Surprise

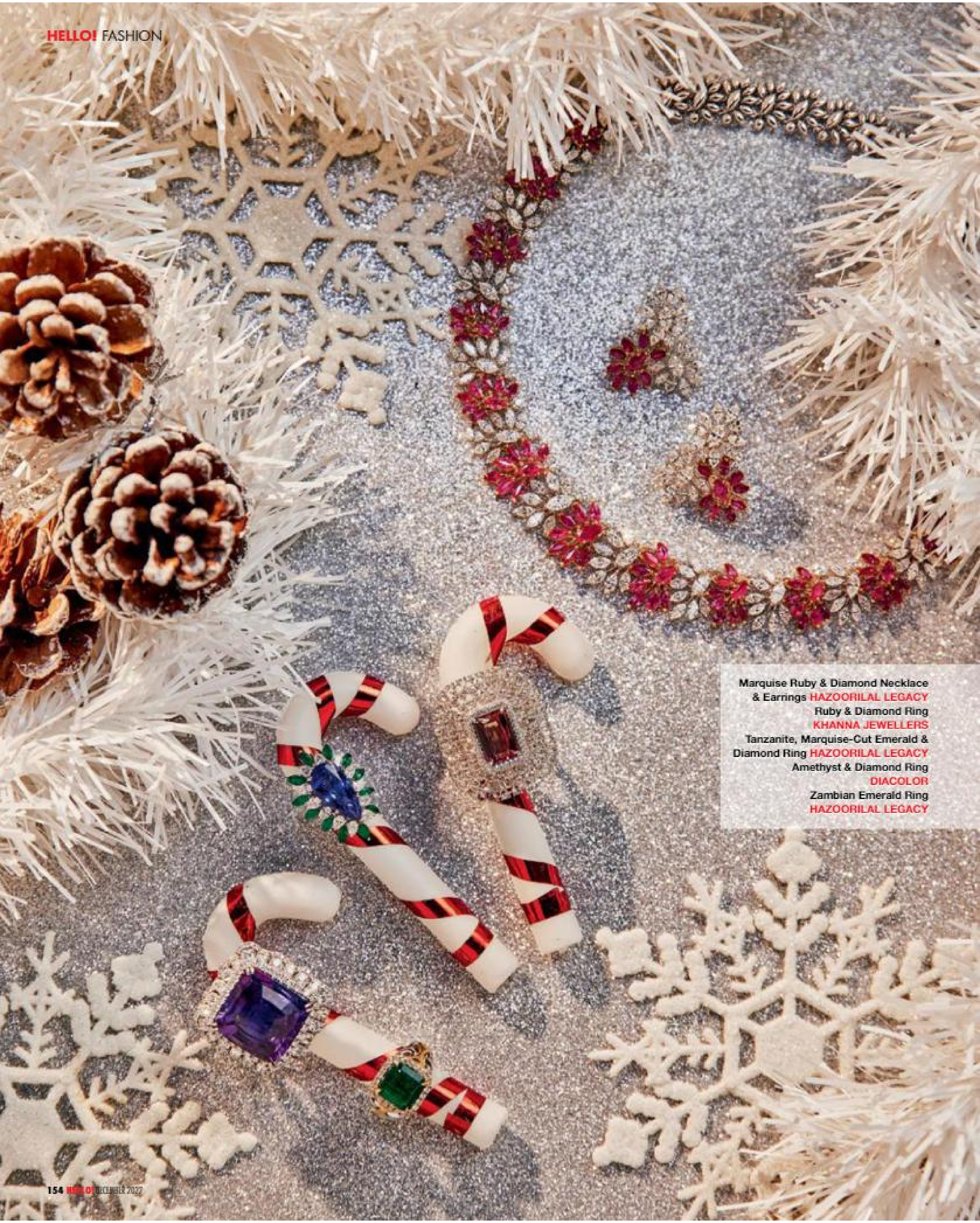
Make your loved ones feel all the more special with the ultimate gifting guide — courtesy HELLO!



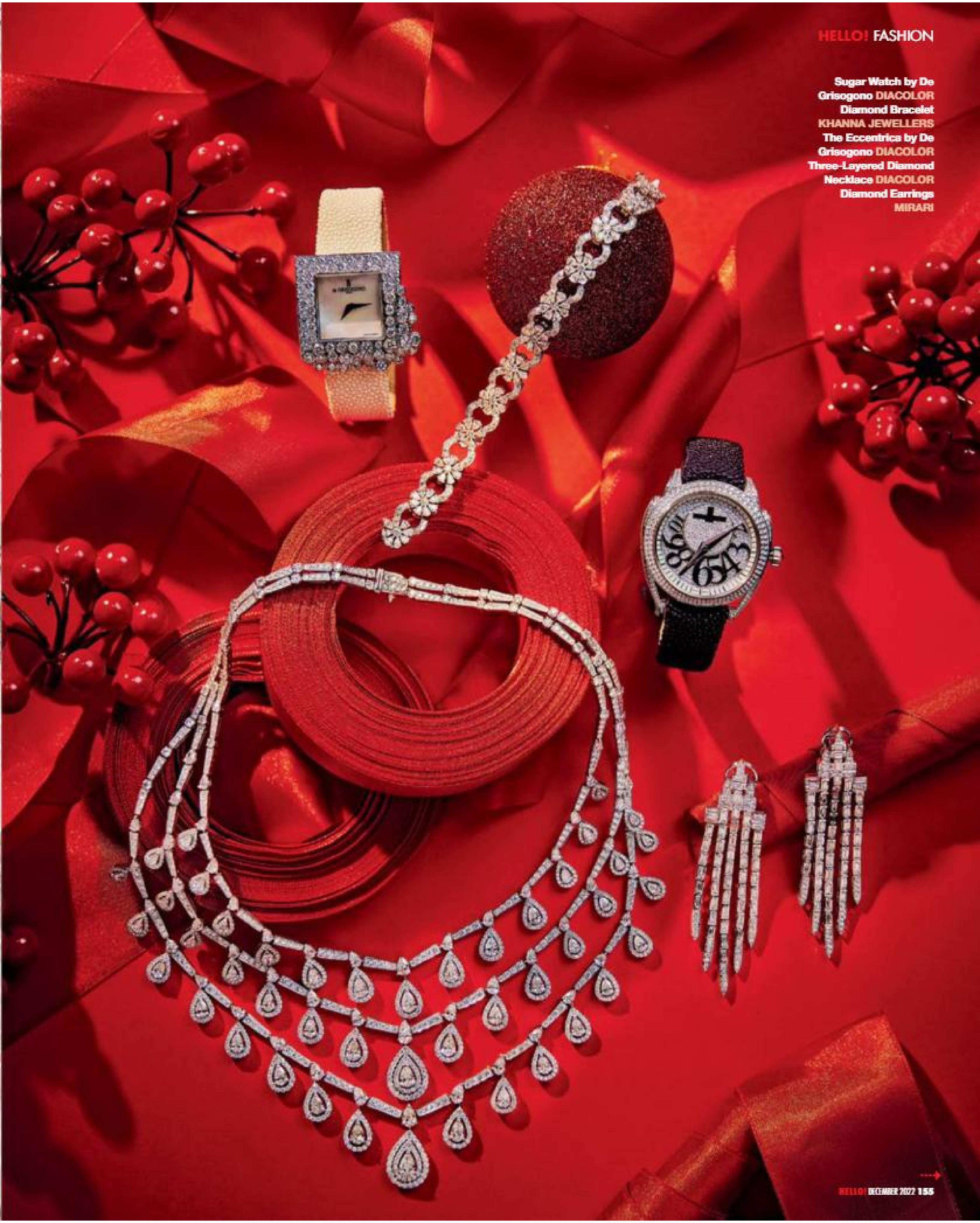
Zambian Emerald Necklace
HAZOORILAL LEGACY
Yellow Sapphire & Diamond
Ring DIACOLOR
Amethyst & Rose-Cut
Diamond Ring MIRARI
Ruby & Diamond Ring
KHANNA JEWELLERS
Zambian Emerald Baguette
Diamond Ring MIRARI
Espresso Shot Cup & Saucer
BEYOND DESIGNS



Bonny Clutch
JIMMY CHOO
One-Stud Clutch
VALENTINO
Open-Toe Velvet Leather Block Heels
HERMÈS
Petite Malle Bag
LOUIS VUITTON

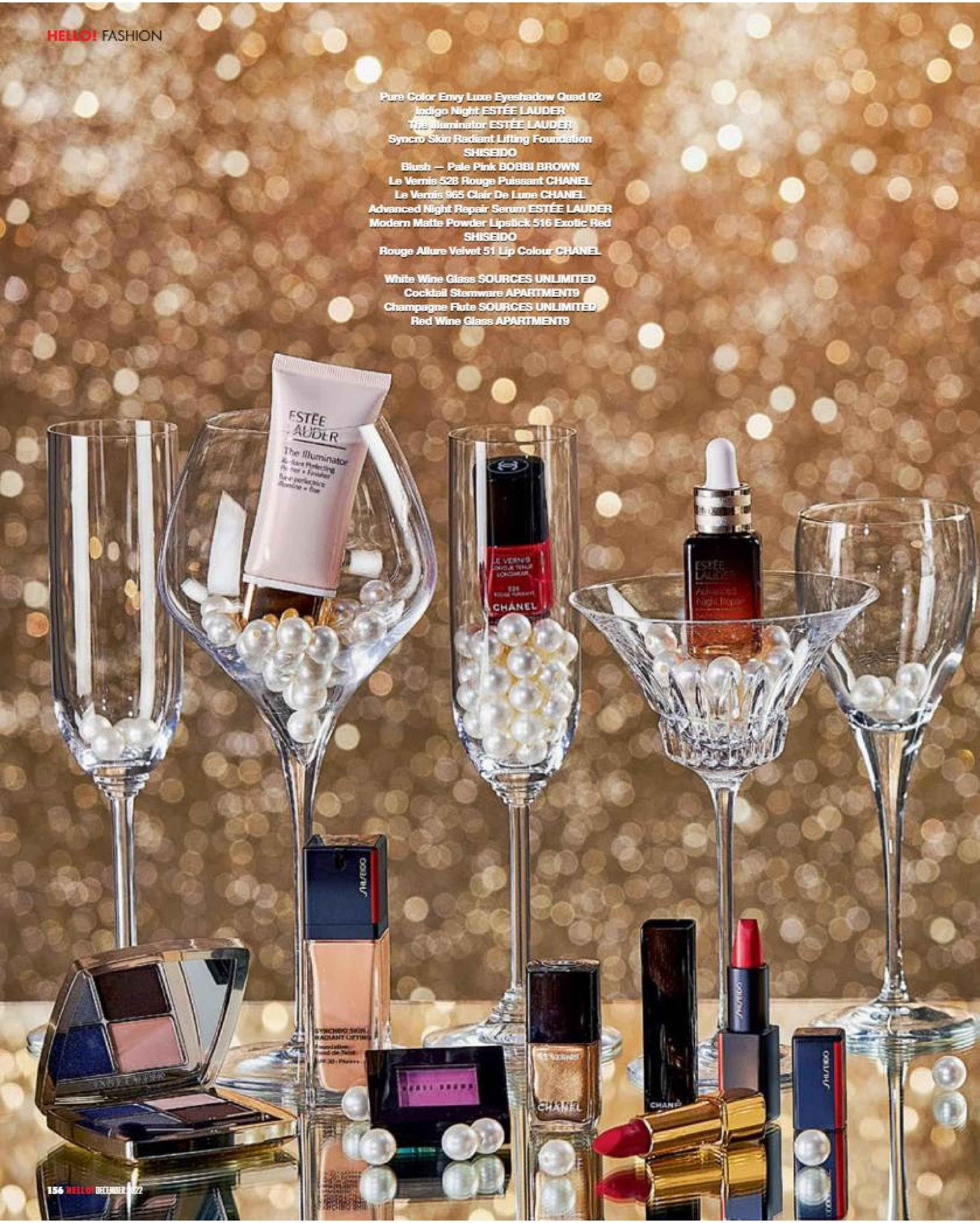


Marquise Ruby & Diamond Necklace
& Earrings HAZOORILAL LEGACY
Ruby & Diamond Ring
KHANNA JEWELLERS
Tanzanite, Marquise-Cut Emerald &
Diamond Ring HAZOORILAL LEGACY
Amethyst & Diamond Ring
DIACOLOR
Zambian Emerald Ring
HAZOORILAL LEGACY



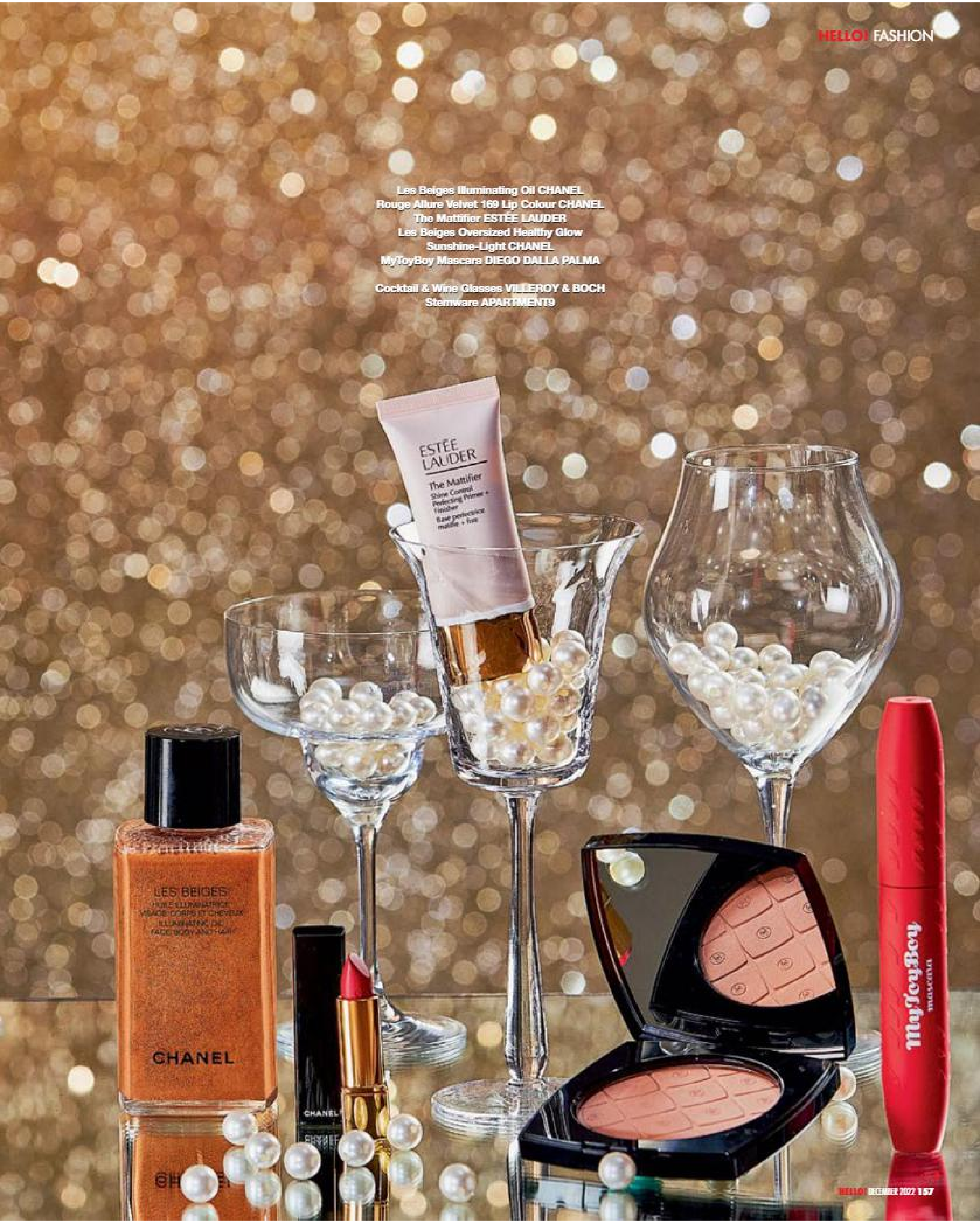
Sugar Watch by De Grisogono DIACOLOR
Diamond Bracelet KHANNA JEWELLERS
The Eccentrica by De Grisogono DIACOLOR
Three-Layered Diamond Necklace DIACOLOR
Diamond Earrings MIRARI

→


ESTÉE LAUDER
The Illuminator
LE VERNIS
CHANEL
ESTÉE LAUDER
Advanced Night Repair
SHISEIDO
SYNCHRO SKIN RADIANT LIFTING
BOBBI BROWN
CHANEL
CHANEL
SHISEIDO
SHISEIDO
ESTÉE LAUDER

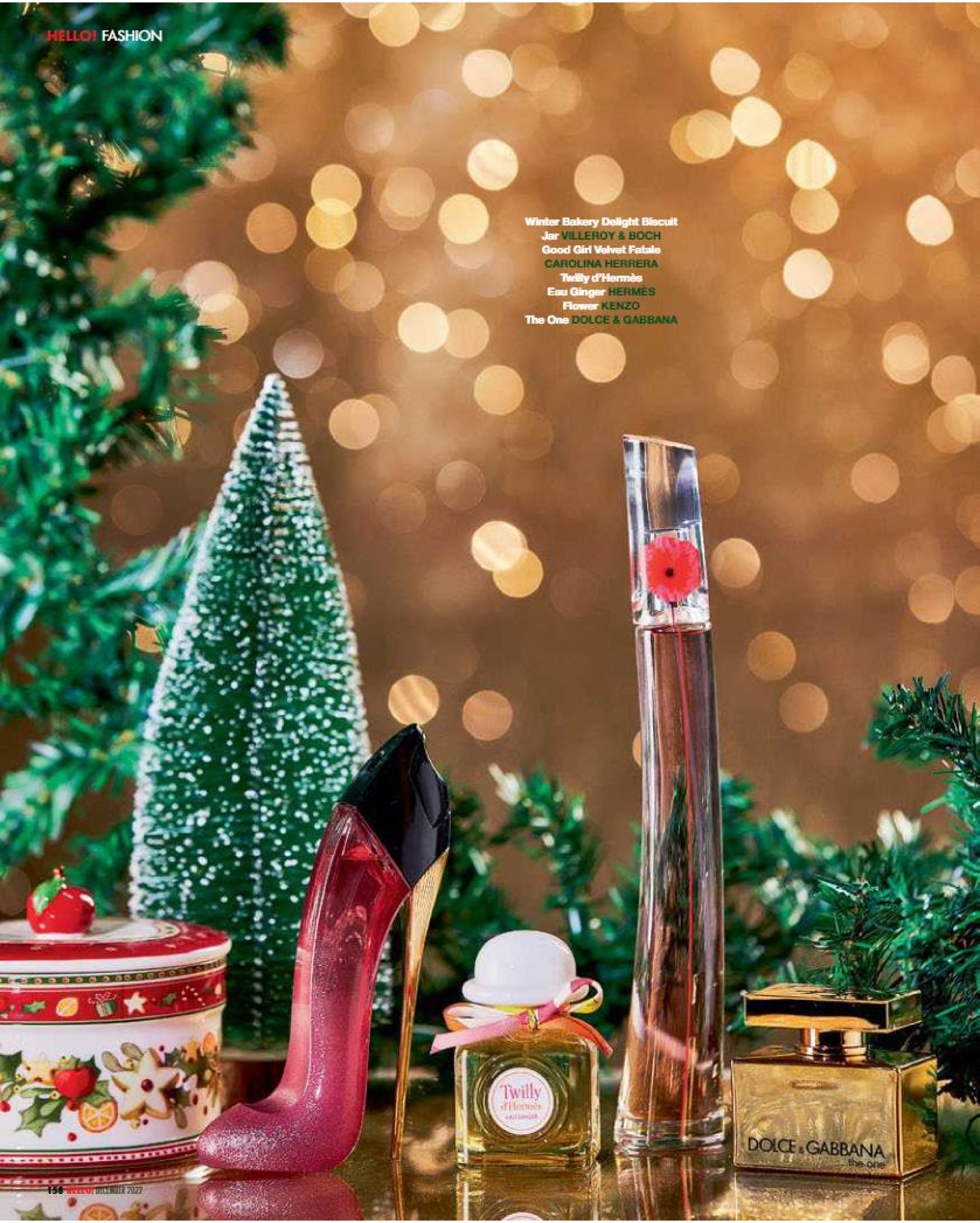
Pure Color Envy Luxe Eyeshadow Quad 02
Indigo Night ESTÉE LAUDER
The Illuminator ESTÉE LAUDER
Syncro Skin Radiant Lifting Foundation
SHISEIDO
Blush — Pale Pink BOBBI BROWN
Le Vernis 528 Rouge Puissant CHANEL
Le Vernis 965 Clair De Lune CHANEL
Advanced Night Repair Serum ESTÉE LAUDER
Modern Matte Powder Lipstick 516 Exotic Red
SHISEIDO
Rouge Allure Velvet 51 Lip Colour CHANEL

White Wine Glass SOURCES UNLIMITED
Cocktail Stemware APARTMENT9
Champagne Flute SOURCES UNLIMITED
Red Wine Glass APARTMENT9


ESTÉE LAUDER
The Mattifier
Shine Control Perfecting Primer + Finisher
Base perfectrice matifie + fixe
LES BEIGES
HUILE ILLUMINATRICE VISAGE, CORPS ET CHEVEUX
ILLUMINATING OIL FACE, BODY AND HAIR
CHANEL
CHANEL
MyToyBoy
mascara

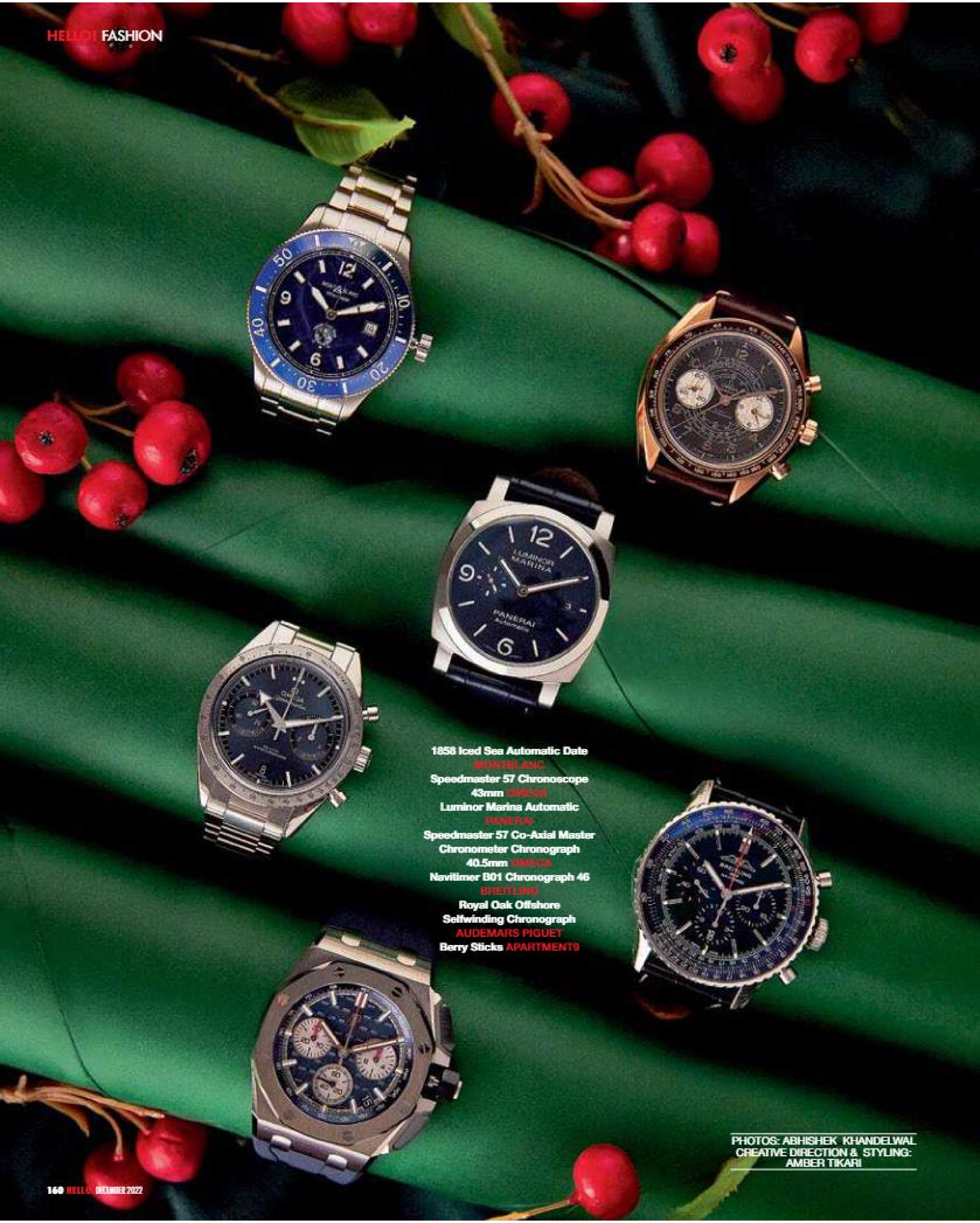
Les Beiges Illuminating Oil CHANEL
Rouge Allure Velvet 169 Lip Colour CHANEL
The Mattifier ESTÉE LAUDER
Les Beiges Oversized Healthy Glow
Sunshine-Light CHANEL
MyToyBoy Mascara DIEGO DALLA PALMA

Cocktail & Wine Glasses VILLEROY & BOCH
Stemware APARTMENT9



Winter Bakery Delight Biscuit Jar VILLEROY & BOCH
Good Girl Velvet Fatale CAROLINA HERRERA
Twilly d'Hermès Eau Ginger HERMÈS
Flower KENZO
The One DOLCE & GABBANA

Cannes Handbag
LOUIS VUITTON



1858 Iced Sea Automatic Date
MONTBLANC
Speedmaster 57 Chronoscope
43mm OMEGA
Luminor Marina Automatic
PANERAI
Speedmaster 57 Co-Axial Master
Chronometer Chronograph
40.5mm OMEGA
Navitimer B01 Chronograph 46
BREITLING
Royal Oak Offshore
Selfwinding Chronograph
AUDEMARS PIGUET
Berry Sticks APARTMENT9

PHOTOS: ABHISHEK KHANDELWAL
CREATIVE DIRECTION & STYLING:
AMBER TIKARI

RP - Sanjiv Goenka Group
Growing Legacies

HSBC

FORTUNE INDIA

INDIA'S MOST POWERFUL WOMEN IN BUSINESS 2022

Powered by

unnati
empowering women

Celebrating the power list of 50 women leaders who made the greatest impact on economy and business in 2022.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2023

ITC GRAND CENTRAL, MUMBAI

Hospitality Partner	Marketing Partner	Telecast Partner
ITC HOTEL ITC GRAND CENTRAL	Creatigies	ET NOW

fortuneindia.com /fortuneind @FortuneIndia
/company/fortune-india fortune.india

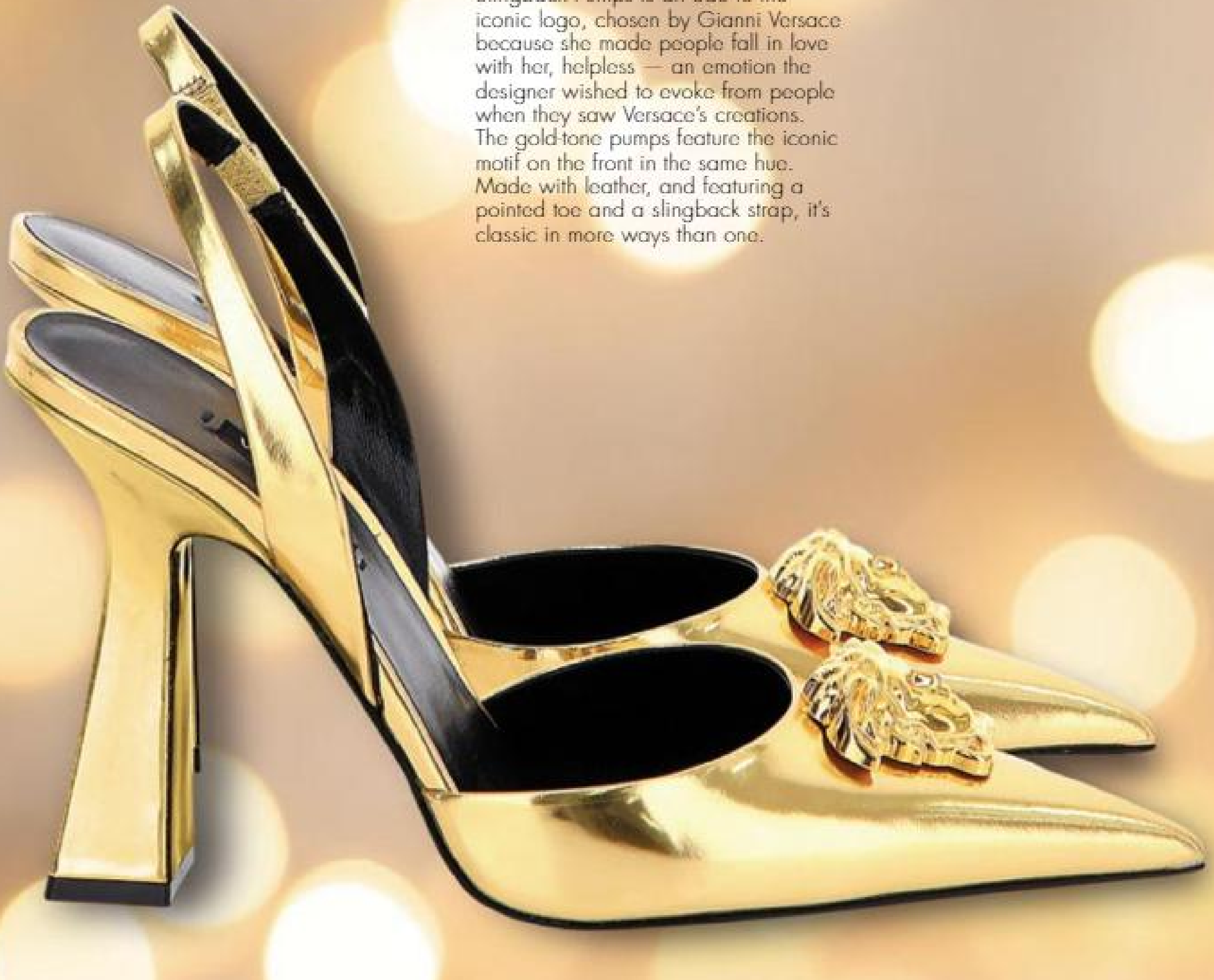
RSVP: harpreet.kaur@fortuneindia.com I 9899901980

ENTRY BY INVITATION ONLY

Medusa Head Slingback

PUMPS BY VERSACE

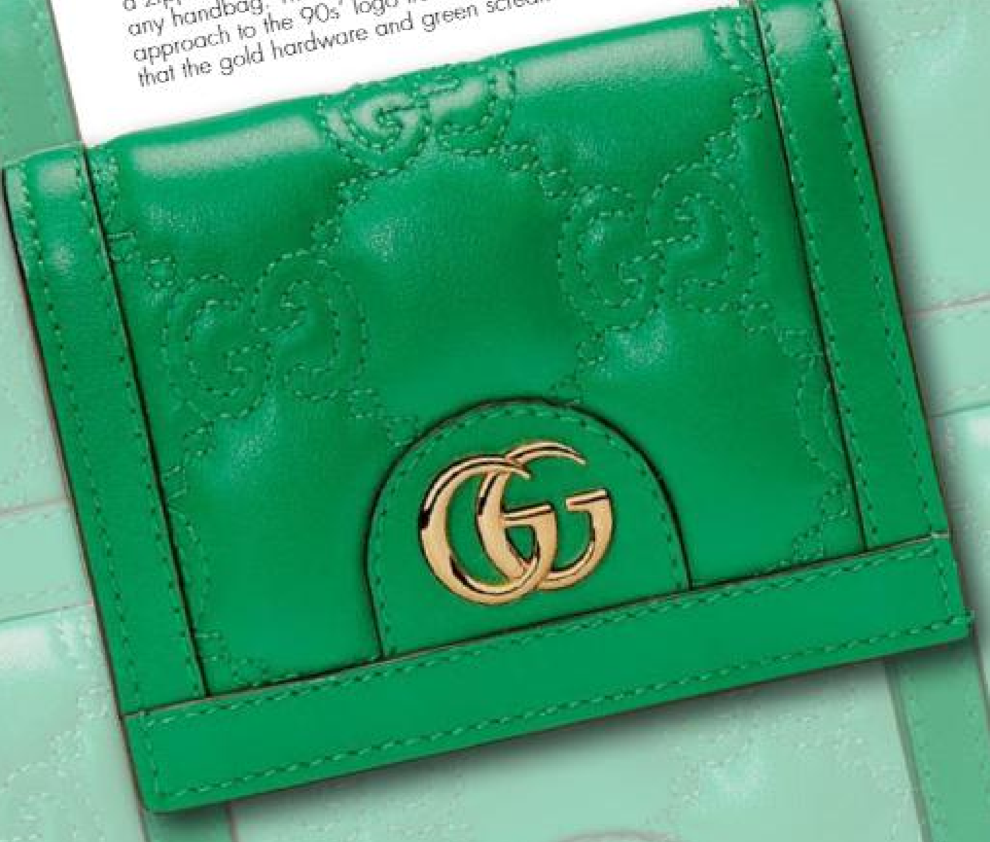
Internationally renowned for its ultra-glamorous designs, this Italian fashion house is synonymous with all things opulent and highly sought-after. This pair of Medusa Head Slingback Pumps is an ode to the iconic logo, chosen by Gianni Versace because she made people fall in love with her, helpless — an emotion the designer wished to evoke from people when they saw Versace's creations. The gold-tone pumps feature the iconic motif on the front in the same hue. Made with leather, and featuring a pointed toe and a slingback strap, it's classic in more ways than one.



GG Matelassé

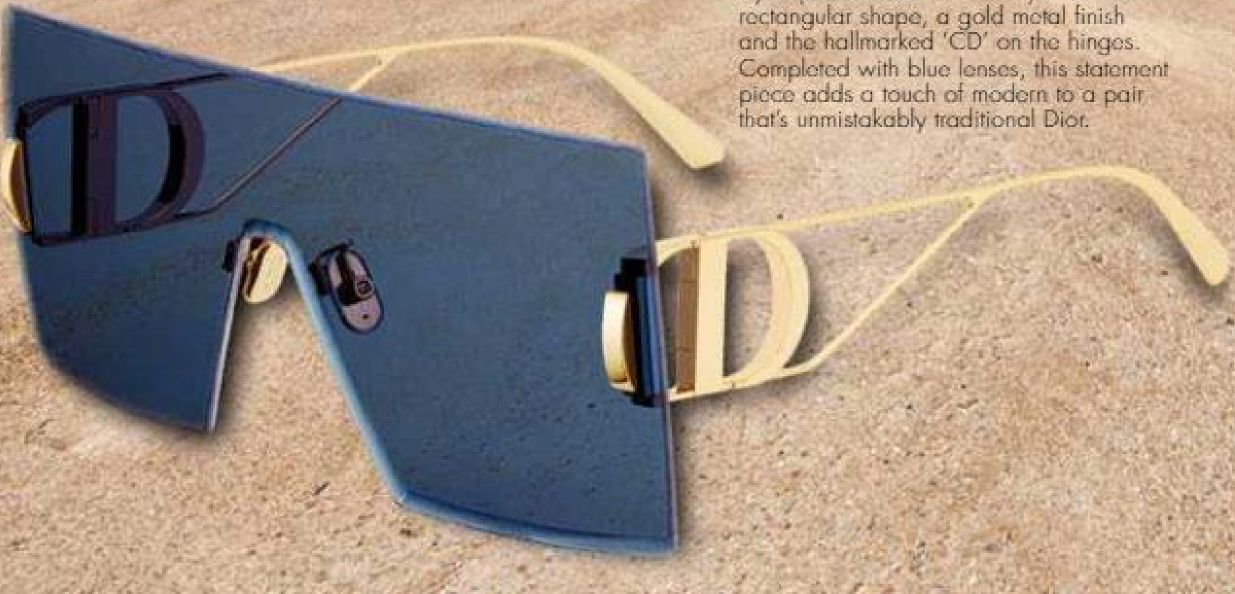
CARD CASE WALLET BY GUCCI

Just the name 'Gucci' evokes ideas of prestige, glamour and legacy, making it one of the most sought-after luxury goods brands in the world. This ultra chic, compact wallet is HELLO!'s choice from their latest drop. With a super soft finish, the signature Matelassé leather is reimagined with a textured geometric motif. With a snap button closure, card slots, an open pocket and a zipper pocket, this wallet is easy to slide into any handbag. The design follows a contemporary approach to the 90s' logo trend — not to mention that the gold hardware and green scream holidays!

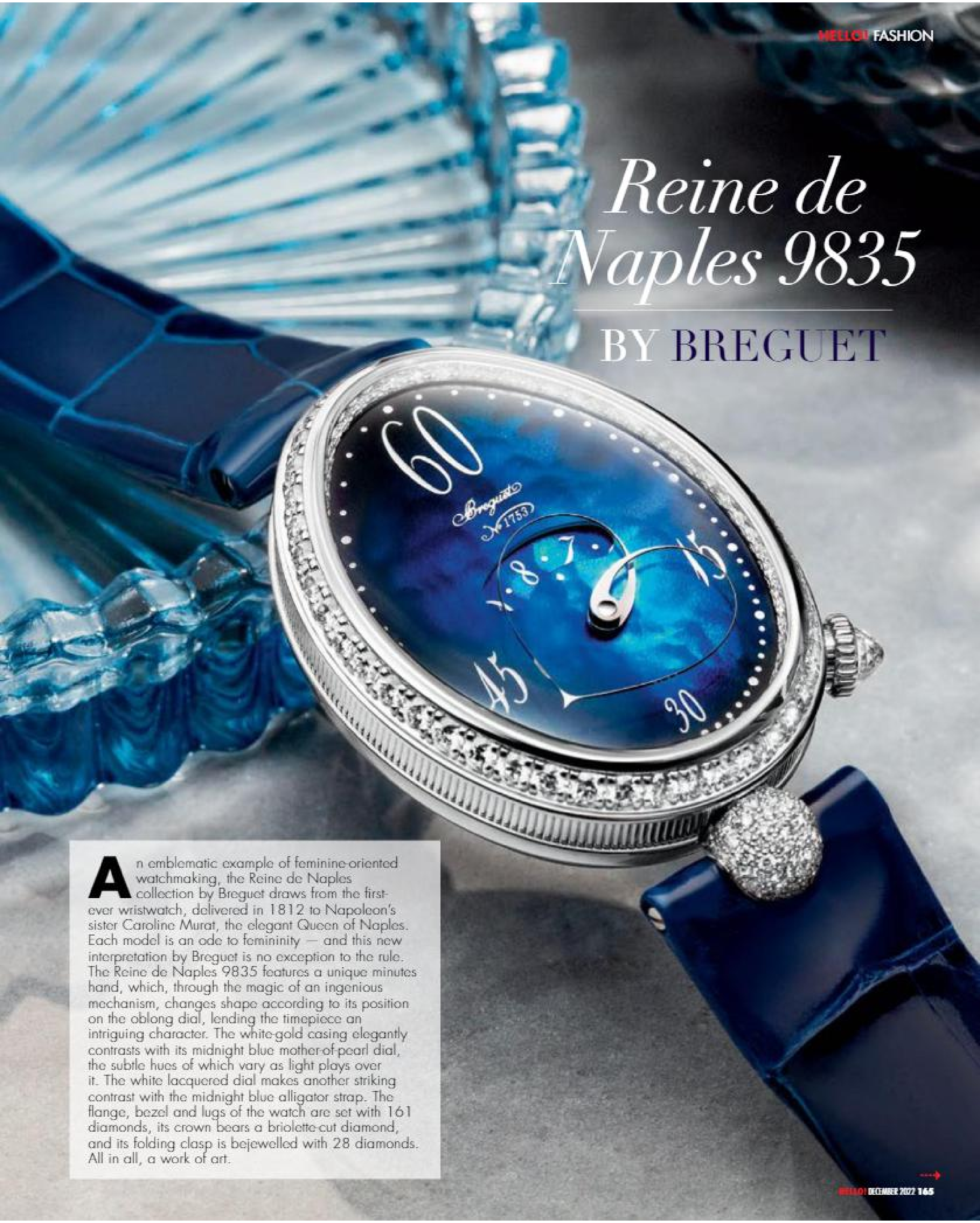


30Montaigne S7U

SUNGLASSES BY DIOR



It's no surprise that Dior is our top pick for the most luxurious sunglasses. Famed for revolutionising women's clothing and accessories, Dior has been pushing the boundaries in the eyewear realm with their unique and innovative designs for over 20 years. The 30 Montaigne S7U Sunglasses from the Cruise 23 collection enriches the house's already iconic line. The couture-style spirit is characterised by its rimless rectangular shape, a gold metal finish and the hallmarked 'CD' on the hinges. Completed with blue lenses, this statement piece adds a touch of modern to a pair that's unmistakably traditional Dior.



Reine de Naples 9835

BY BREGUET

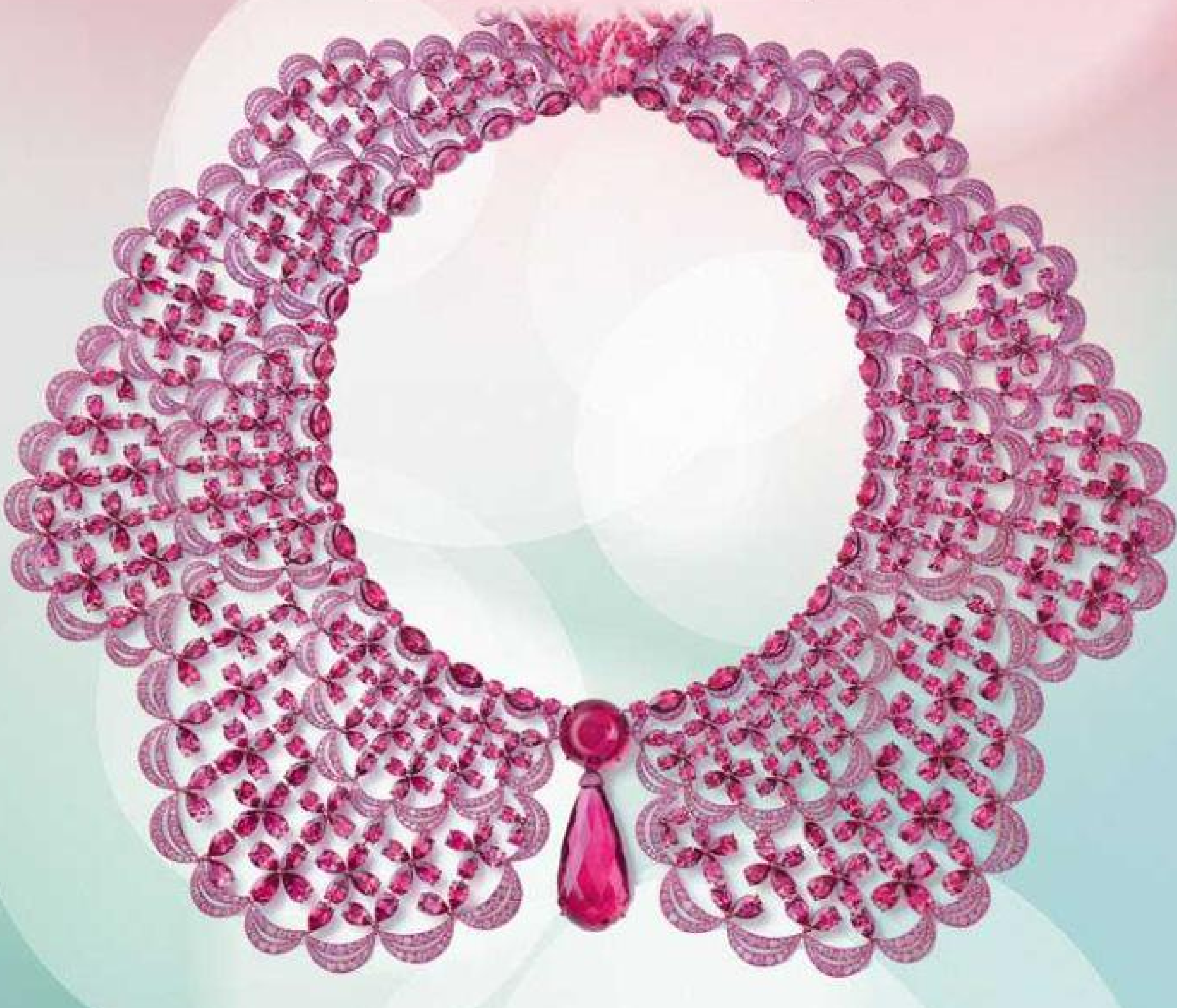
An emblematic example of feminine-oriented watchmaking, the Reine de Naples collection by Breguet draws from the first-ever wristwatch, delivered in 1812 to Napoleon's sister Caroline Murat, the elegant Queen of Naples. Each model is an ode to femininity — and this new interpretation by Breguet is no exception to the rule. The Reine de Naples 9835 features a unique minutes hand, which, through the magic of an ingenious mechanism, changes shape according to its position on the oblong dial, lending the timepiece an intriguing character. The white-gold casing elegantly contrasts with its midnight blue mother-of-pearl dial, the subtle hues of which vary as light plays over it. The white lacquered dial makes another striking contrast with the midnight blue alligator strap. The flange, bezel and lugs of the watch are set with 161 diamonds, its crown bears a briolette-cut diamond, and its folding clasp is bejewelled with 28 diamonds. All in all, a work of art.

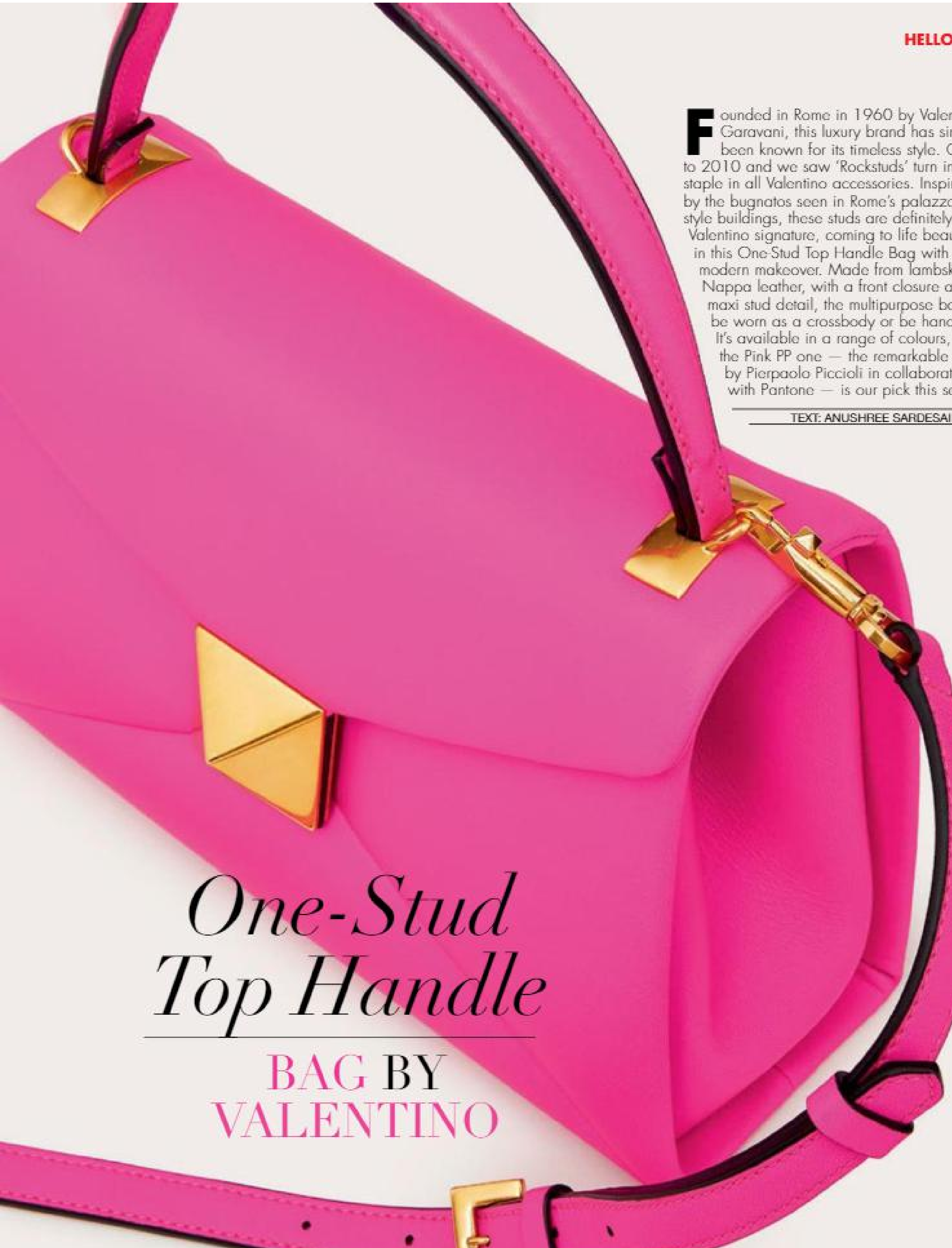
---→

Rubellite

COLLAR BY CHOPARD

Known for making high-quality Swiss watches and luxury jewellery since 1860, this Swiss brand is best known for its craftsmanship and exquisite designs. This year marks Chopard's 25th year as the official partner of the Cannes Film Festival, and to commemorate this milestone, they showcased their flare for high jewellery through a 75-piece edit, aptly titled the 'Red Carpet Collection'. A design that stood out was this Rubellite Collar neckpiece, which defines luxe glamour in every way possible. Made using Fairmined-certified ethical 18-karat white gold and titanium, set with rubellites (totalling 188.4 karats) and pink sapphires (22.61 karats), it's a through-and-through headturner.





One-Stud Top Handle

BAG BY VALENTINO

Founded in Rome in 1960 by Valentino Garavani, this luxury brand has since been known for its timeless style. Cut to 2010 and we saw 'Rockstuds' turn into a staple in all Valentino accessories. Inspired by the bugnatos seen in Rome's palazzo-style buildings, these studs are definitely a Valentino signature, coming to life beautifully in this One-Stud Top Handle Bag with a modern makeover. Made from lambskin Nappa leather, with a front closure and maxi stud detail, the multipurpose bag can be worn as a crossbody or be hand held. It's available in a range of colours, but the Pink PP one — the remarkable shade by Pierpaolo Piccioli in collaboration with Pantone — is our pick this season.

TEXT: ANUSHREE SARDESAI

1

2

GIFT UP YOUR SPIRITS!

Surprise your loved ones with spendid products and collections available exclusively at The Chanakya — a luxury destination in the heart of Lutyens' Delhi that's brimming with exquisite boutiques, fine-dining hotspots, gourmet delicacies and the best of entertainment

3

5

LOUIS MOINET
1806

4

6

8

9

7

10

11

1. The Chanakya, New Delhi
2. Epic X Chrono Watch **JACOB & CO.** (Available at **ETHOS**)
3. Crystal Furbie **OUTHOUSE**
4. Harlyyn Heart of Glass Pendant Necklace & Stud Earrings **TED BAKER**
5. Moon Watch **LOUIS MOINET** (Available at **ETHOS**)
6. Cheese Connoisseur **FOODHALL**
7. Meisterstück Selection Soft Thin Document Case **MONTBLANC**
8. Cable Knit Jumper **RALPH LAUREN**
9. Stoles **JANAVI**
10. Brielle Dress **RANNA GILL**
11. Rings - Knot Collection **TIFFANY & CO.**

The BUSINESS OF Beauty

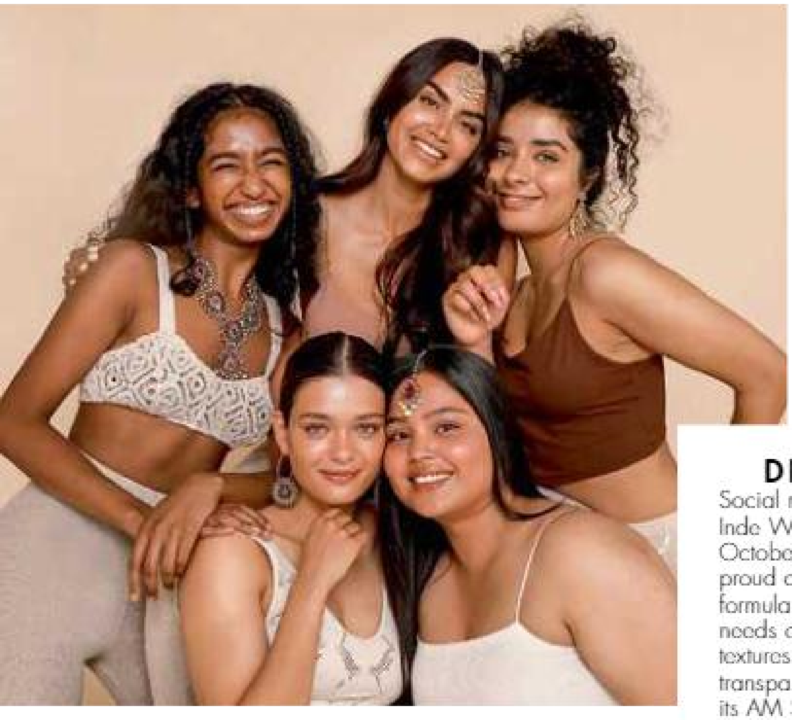
The highly saturated waters of celebrity brands saw many an international and Indian name jumping onto the bandwagon. While new launches come with their own stamp of intrigue, a celebrity tag piques the interests of enthusiasts even further. From Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Deepika Padukone to Scarlett Johansson and Brad Pitt, HELLO! brings you some of the biggest celebrity offerings of 2022

DEEPIKA PADUKONE
82°E

Bollywood's reigning queen Deepika Padukone forayed into the beauty market with 82°E, which she's positioned as a self-care brand. Co-founded with Jigar K Shah, Deepika told HELLO! that 82°E as a self-care brand "was the most natural extension of my learnings". "It's strongly rooted in my homeland but is global in outlook and appeal," she added. With its name inspired by the Standard Meridian of India, she unveiled the label with two products, a rejuvenating moisturiser and a sunscreen, products that combine time-tested Indian ingredients with powerful scientific compounds. From skincare, Deepika plans to branch out to other segments of beauty, as well.

HAILEY BIEBER
RHODE

Taking her middle name, Rhode, as the company moniker, Hailey Bieber unveiled a lipcare line this June — all commendably vegan and affordable. Having long envisioned owning her own beauty brand, Hailey tapped into the expertise of celebrated dermatologist Dr Dhaval Bhanushali and cosmetic chemist Dr Ron Robinson to come out with a peptide lip treat in three varieties, a peptide glazing fluid and a barrier restore cream. Defined as "edited, efficacious and intentional", this celebrity skincare line has a strong sustainability motto and uses scientifically-tested natural ingredients like shea butter, niacinamide, babassu and squalane.



DIIPA BÜLLER-KHOSLA INDE WILD

Social media influencer and entrepreneur Diipa Büller-Khosla brought Inde Wild to India this August, though she founded the label in October 2021 and launched it in the US, Canada and UK first. The proud all-women team of Inde Wild uses a special "Ayurvedistry" formula — marrying Ayurveda and chemistry — to address the needs of South Asian women and focus on different skin types, tones, textures and concerns rooted within this community. Sustainable and transparent about every ingredient used, Inde Wild first launched with its AM Sunrise Glow Serum and PM Sunset Restore Serum, and later unveiled the Champi Hair Oil, which uses a blend of oils that are the secret to Diipa's mother Sangitha Khosla's Rapunzel-esque locks.

BRAD PITT
LE DOMAINE SKINCARE

Oscar-winner Brad Pitt forayed into the beauty industry with a gender-neutral line, Le Domaine Skincare, this September. Launched in partnership with the Perrin family, the ones behind his Miraval vineyard, it currently offers The Cleaning Emulsion, The Cream and The Serum, all available for refills in keeping with Pitt's ambitious sustainability goals. The products are vegan and made of natural terroir-based ingredients. The brand's two specialised patented ingredients are the antioxidant-rich GSM10, obtained from grenache seeds, syrah seeds and grape skins, and ProGR3, derived from plant extracts, vine sarments, chamomile and green tea, which contain anti-ageing elements.

MASABA GUPTA
LOVECHILD

A millennial icon as unapologetic about her sense of self like her mother, Masaba Gupta added another feather in her cap with the launch of LoveChild, described as "a cosmo-wellness brand driven by one single goal — to celebrate you". With her beauty brand, she proudly owns the term often used to define her life as the daughter of Neena Gupta and cricketer Viv Richards. "While I never understood why it was such a huge part of my introduction, I decided to own it and build a positive and wholesome feeling around the term," said Masaba, who unveiled LoveChild first with a range of liquid lipsticks and nail enamels and later expanded to eye makeup, face mists, sheet masks, fragrances and even an anti-anxiety oil.

PRIYANKA CHOPRA JONAS
ANOMALY HAIRCARE

From being Miss World 2000 and a successful model and actor to a renowned name in hospitality with her NYC restaurant Sona, Priyanka Chopra Jonas turned entrepreneur with Anomaly Haircare this February. Her products arrived in India in August and made an even bigger splash in November, with PeeCee herself flying down for a special event. "I saw a gap in the market for clean and sustainable haircare, especially at an affordable price point. So I poured my heart into it," she said. Anomaly is gender-neutral, cruelty- and harmful chemical-free and eco-friendly, with its packaging made of 100 percent recycled plastic trash. Her favourites include Anomaly's dry shampoo and bonding treatment mask. Next, Priyanka has her eyes set on South Africa, the Middle East and Europe.

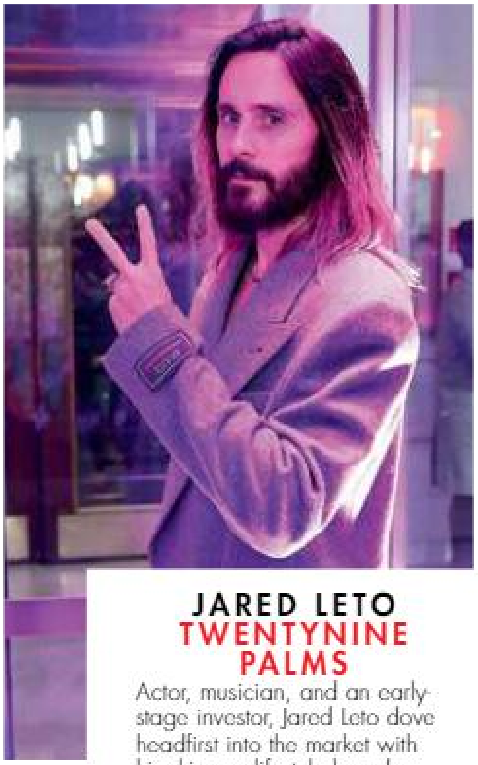
→

GWEN STEFANI GXVE BEAUTY

For Gwen Stefani, it was makeup before music. So the singer-songwriter conceptualised GXVE Beauty as a makeup label aimed at recreating some of her iconic glam looks. Pronounced 'give', as an ode to how she signs her name, the line includes lipsticks, liquid lip colours, lip liners and vibrant glosses for dramatic lips, four-shade eyeshadow palettes, eyeliner pencils and eyebrow pencils in a myriad shades to let your eyes do the talking, and an all-time primer for a dewy glowing complexion. The cherry on the cake: the products are all cruelty-free and vegan, a theme seemingly common to most celebrity brands.

KIM KARDASHIAN SKKN BY KIM

After the tremendous success of Skims and KKW Fragrance, Kim Kardashian made another glamorous splash in June with SKKN by Kim. The reality TV star roped in celebrity aesthetician and facialist Joanna Czech to develop the formulae for its range of nine premium products — all vegan and cruelty-free and devoid of gluten, sulphates, BHT and PEGs. Positioned as a rebrand of her earlier venture KKW Beauty, SKKN by Kim offers a cleanser, toner, exfoliator, hyaluronic acid serum, eye cream, face cream, vitamin C8 serum, night oil and oil drops, all containing natural and clean ingredients and allowing for refills to help achieve a radiant glow like Kim K herself.



JARED LETO TWENTYNINE PALMS

Actor, musician, and an early-stage investor, Jared Leto dove headfirst into the market with his skincare-lifestyle brand, Twentynine Palms. Inspired by Joshua Tree National Park and created with sustainability at the forefront, the initial drop included 11 vegan and cruelty-free products designed for the body, face and hair, alongside a limited-edition scarf featuring artwork by Douglas Mandry. Twentynine Palms' products were developed with a heavy emphasis on hydration, designed to work within a customer's existing skincare regime. The brand's namesake city serves as the main entry point to the national park — and is also where Jared first learned to meditate. The team used the area's indigenous ingredients, such as prickly pear extract, the fatty-acid-rich oils of amaranth plants and evening primrose, for its offerings.

HARRY STYLES PLEASING

Musician, actor, fashion icon plus designer and now a beauty entrepreneur, Harry Styles is set for world domination. The former One Direction member aims to please with his wellness label, Pleasing, launched exactly a year ago, featuring a wide range of bright nail polishes. The androgynous dresser also released a makeup line in collaboration with Brazil-born, Paris-based fashion designer Marco Ribeiro. This one's a limited-edition, vegan capsule collection of clean products that reflect Rebeiro's vision and creative aesthetics, besides making Pleasing a more vibrant space.

JENNIFER ANISTON
LOLAVIE

Didn't we all love Rachel's varied hairstyles in *Friends*? None of them would have been possible without actor Jennifer Aniston's beautiful tresses. One way to try to achieve those shining locks is giving her haircare label LolaVie a try. Its range of plant-based products that use naturally-derived ingredients promises to be free from all the nasties, including parabens, silicones, sulphates, phthalates and gluten, and is also cruelty-free "because we love our animals", as Jennifer says. LolaVie started out with a Glossing Detangler and Perfecting Leave-In, and now offers a wider line including a lightweight hair oil, a restorative shampoo and conditioner as well as a wet brush.

LOLAVIE
LOLAVIE

COURTENEY COX
HOMECOURT

As an actor obsessed with design and her home, Courtney Cox came up with Homecourt with the aim of merging beauty and home. "I wanted the home to smell like something that I'd want to wear," said the *Friends* star of her first entrepreneurial venture. The brand, described as a beauty line for the home, takes a beauty approach to products traditionally found under the home category, such as hand soap, dish soap and surface spray. Its products are formulated with ingredients traditionally used in skincare, and fine fragrances created by perfumers at Givaudan and Robertet. Homecourt initially launched with a hand wash, dish soap and surface spray, and has since expanded to candles and hand cream.

SCARLETT JOHANSSON
THE OUTSET

Scarlett Johansson joined the slew of celebrities introducing their beauty brands this year with The Outset. The *Black Widow* actor revealed five daily essentials under her label — a niacinamide night cream, an eye cream, a micellar antioxidant cleanser, a collagen serum and a daily moisturiser — all devoid of parabens, fragrances and gluten, as well as clean and vegan. Another USP of The Outset is that it uses hyaluroset complex, a botanical alternative to hyaluronic acid. Assuring users of soft, hydrated skin, the label follows Scarlett's decision to quit beauty endorsements, after being the face of brands like L'Oréal and Dolce & Gabbana.

TEXT: SHRADDHA CHOWDHURY

THE OUTSET
THE OUTSET
THE OUTSET

Scan the QR code to catch up on the latest beauty trends

WINTER GLOW

Besides the nip in the air, the colder months bring with them dry skin, flaky scalp and chapped lips. Keep them all at bay with HELLO!'s curation of beauty products that will help you look and feel your best for all end-of-the-year festivities

EYES, EYES, BABY!

PRIMROSE PALETTE **ANASTASIA BEVERLY HILLS**

Holiday magic gets even more enchanting with this luxurious rose-inspired, all-in-one palette by Anastasia Beverly Hills, designed to help you create your day-to-night looks with ease. It's the perfect mix of 12 decadent mattes and multi-dimensional metallics that blend and build to deliver all the gorgeous looks you've been eyeing. **₹6,500; boddess.com**

EMPOWERED EYESHADOW PALETTE **HUDA BEAUTY**

Huda's latest drop, an 18-shade eyeshadow palette, brings our search for an all-in-one everyday kit to an end. The perfect mix of rich neutral mattes and metallics, its amazing formulation lets you switch up from shadow to liner and create the holiday look of your dreams! Dramatic or low-key, no matter the vibe, this lineup of buttery smooth golds, coppers, browns and nudes would be an invaluable addition to your makeup kit. **₹5,375; nykaa.com**

MYTOYBOY MASCARA – EXTRA VOLUME **DIEGO DALLA PALMA MILANO**

This mascara actually keeps its promise — it's lengthening, ultra volumising and good for your lashes. There's more: it lasts for 24 hours and ensures lash growth in just 40 days! Use it for an instant 'wow' effect that will actually leave you speechless as you apply it. After all, this is the only drama we want this holiday season!

₹2,290; parcos.com

ILLUMINATING CREAM & POWDER EYESHADOW **SIMPLY NAM**

A game-changing product for the festive season, this eyeshadow is a great duo of cream and powder in one. Available in a range of gorgeous metallic shades that add the right hint of drama to your eyes, the product's made of a crease-proof, velvety rich formula. It's highly pigmented and transfer-proof, and a definitive must-have for your beauty armour.

₹1,499; simplynam.com

POUT PERFECTORS

VELOUR LIQUID LIPSTICK **JEFFREE STAR COSMETICS**

This one's a rich, opaque and highly pigmented formula that stays on for hours and dries completely matte. Available in a wide range of shades, this is the perfect lip colour for all those holiday dinners and parties. Pro tip: exfoliate your lips and moisturise them well before applying an even coat of this liquid magic.

₹2,200; nykaa.com

PERFECT PAIR LIP HYDRATION SET **LANEIGE**

It's the perfect set of two that ensures a hydrated pout from day to night. Enriched with a moisture wrap technology, the lip mask works its magic on chapped lips overnight, to make sure you wake up to a soft, supple pout. The lip balm is best for when you're on the go — it instantly removes flakes and makes your lips look healthy. The best part: they're available in the most delicious flavours! **₹1,500; nykaa.com**

FLAWLESS & FABULOUS

THE QUICK FIX CIRCLE HAIR MASK **DAVINES**

A regenerating hair mask that promises to take action within 3 minutes, this formulation by Davines is a dream come true. Its highly moisturising and deep-conditioning properties untangle your locks, leaving them soft, silky and manageable, making it an essential for winter, when your hair needs an extra dose of hydration.

₹650; davinesindia.com

TURMERIC GLOW FOAMING CLEANSER **KORA ORGANICS**

An invigorating, skin-friendly gel cleanser, this product by Kora transforms into a lathering foam to gently yet thoroughly remove all dirt and impurities. Enriched with noni, turmeric, aloe and saccharide isomerate, the formula deeply cleanses without causing any dryness or irritation and leaves the skin looking smooth, soft and radiant.

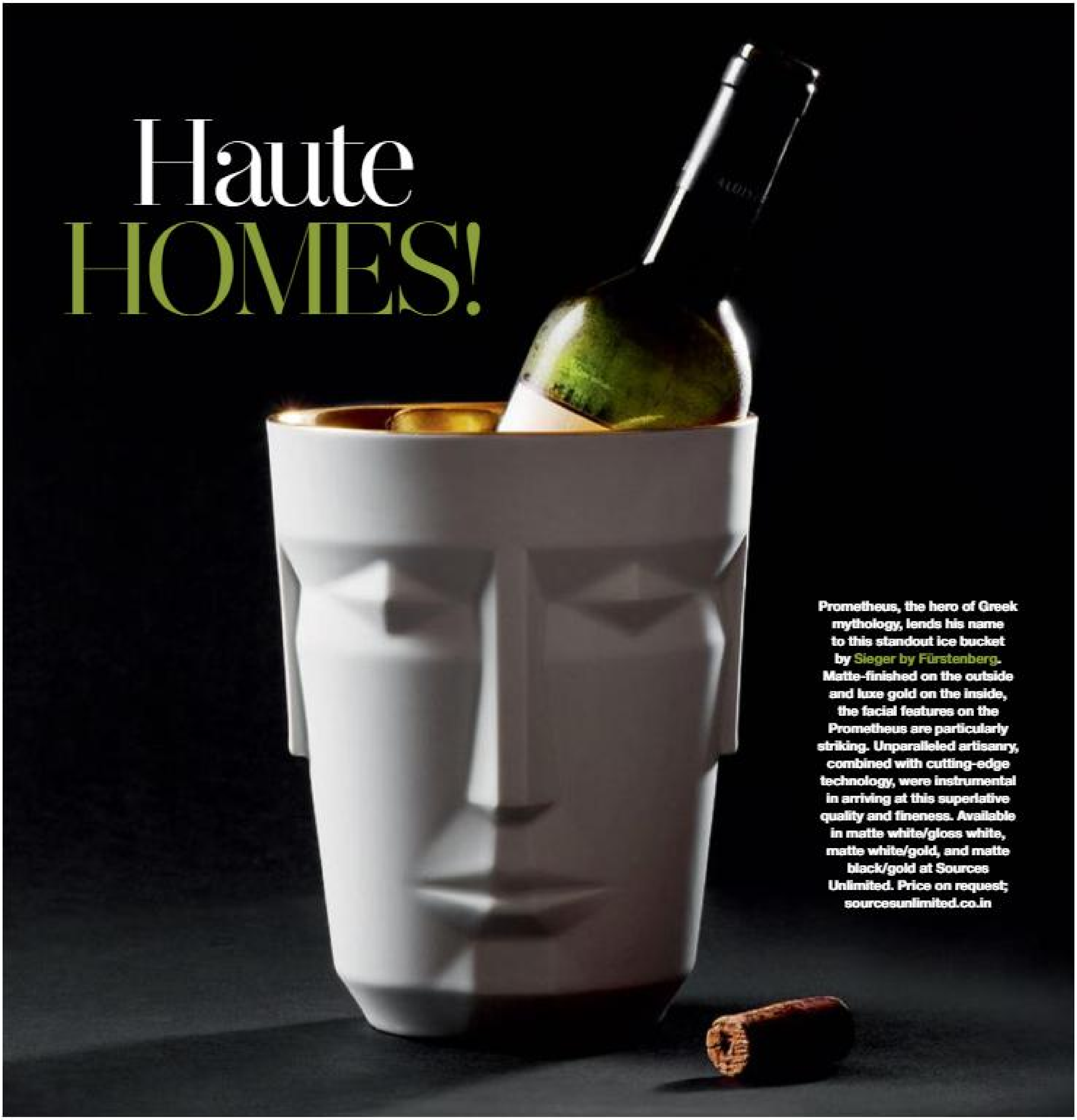
₹ 3,990; nykaa.com

TEXT: ANUSHREE SARDESAI

Good Living

THE HAUTEST NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF LUXURY INTERIORS

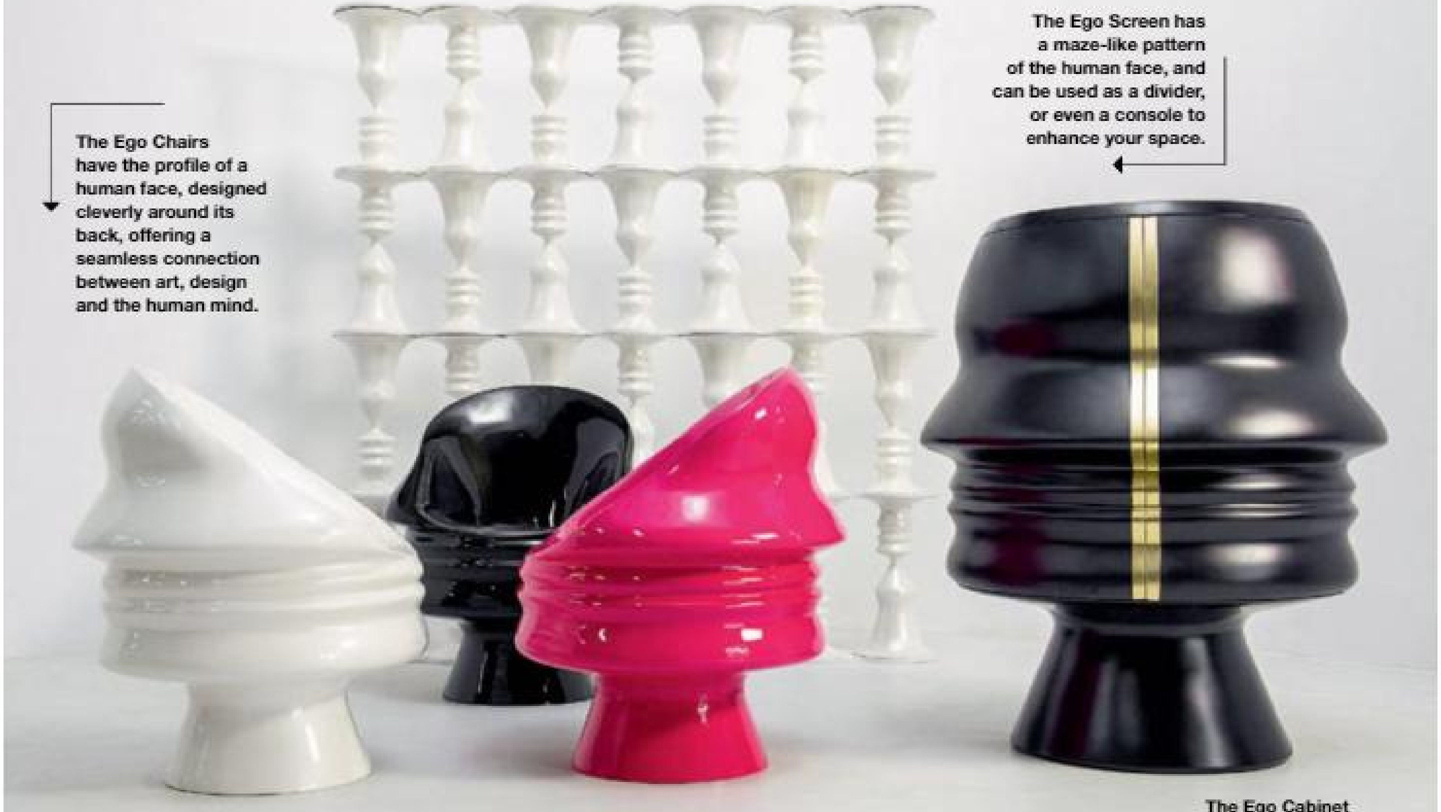
Haute HOMES!



Prometheus, the hero of Greek mythology, lends his name to this standout ice bucket by Sieger by Fürstenberg. Matte-finished on the outside and luxe gold on the inside, the facial features on the Prometheus are particularly striking. Unparalleled artisanry, combined with cutting-edge technology, were instrumental in arriving at this superlative quality and fineness. Available in matte white/gloss white, matte white/gold, and matte black/gold at Sources Unlimited. Price on request; sourcesunlimited.co.in

LET EGO REIGN

In a unique collaboration with an Indian design firm, world-renowned industrial designer Karim Rashid has fashioned an eclectic new line



The Ego Chairs have the profile of a human face, designed cleverly around its back, offering a seamless connection between art, design and the human mind.

The Ego Screen has a maze-like pattern of the human face, and can be used as a divider, or even a console to enhance your space.

The Ego Cabinet features gold trims that gently outline the human face, which opens up to reveal circular rotating shelves with brass details.

It's on rare occasions that a new drop from a design house ticks every box: one-of-a-kind, dramatic and eye-catching, luxe and sophisticated. The Ego collection by Karim Rashid for Scarlet Splendour is one such edit of home décor products that has one reaching for their wallets instantly.

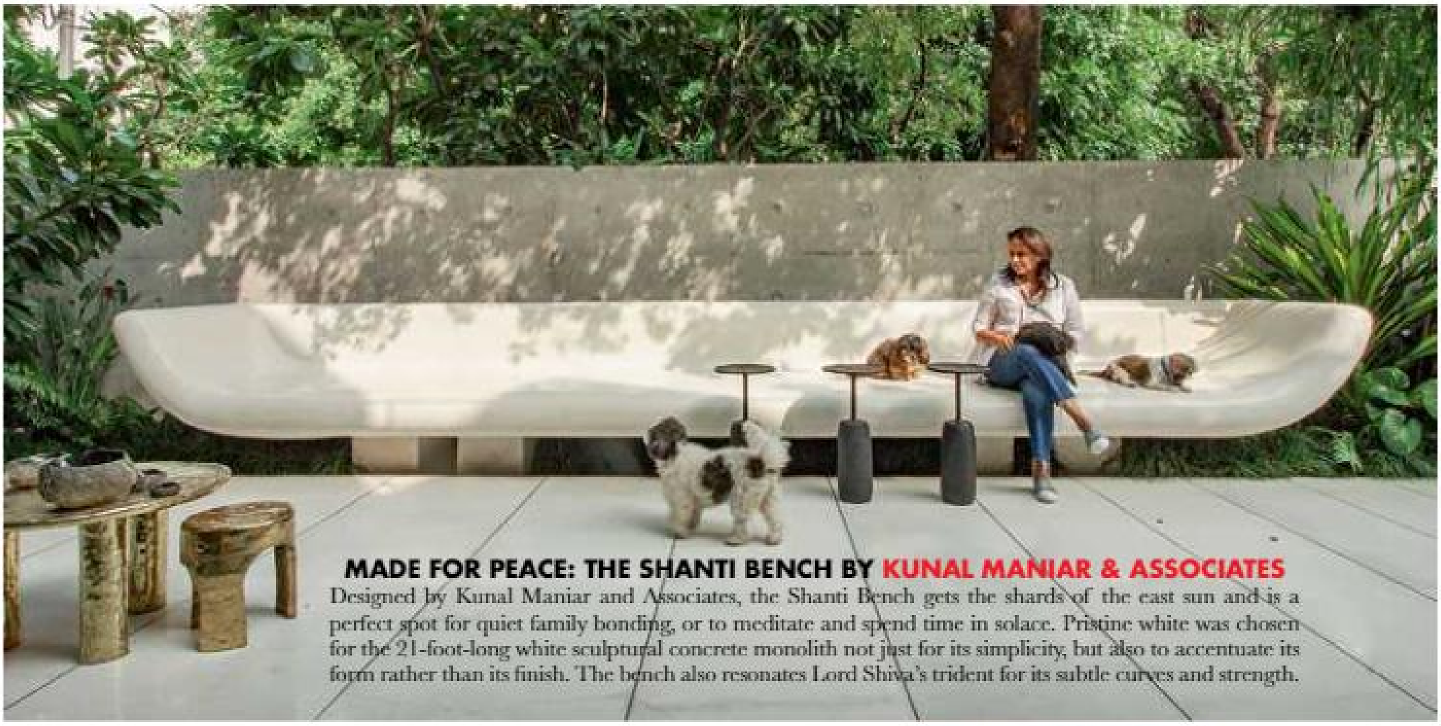
The line's exquisite pieces include a striking black cabinet with a gold brass inlay, a sumptuous chair in hot pink, pearl white and black, and an intricate pearl white screen. The standout feature in them all, however, is the use of the human face — a trademark of Rashid, one could say.

In 1984, Rashid was assigned the project of designing a drinking glass fashioned after a human head or face, while he studied under Gaetano Pesce near Naples. The facial motif in the fascinating pieces of the Ego collection is a reimagination of this concept.

"Art reflects life. Art is selfish, design is democratic. And what's more selfish than ego?" says Rashid. "The human face has been used in art for thousands of years. Here, it appears generic."

Ashish Bajoria, co-founder of Scarlet Splendour, believes that only Rashid could design a line as timeless as the Ego.

"The Ego collection looks at the self in a paradox of the obvious and subtle," he adds. "The choice of colours is signature Rahid, as well. The collection is a perfect match for our brand, with its unique voice and design whim."



MADE FOR PEACE: THE SHANTI BENCH BY KUNAL MANIAR & ASSOCIATES

Designed by Kunal Maniar and Associates, the Shanti Bench gets the shards of the east sun and is a perfect spot for quiet family bonding, or to meditate and spend time in solace. Pristine white was chosen for the 21-foot-long white sculptural concrete monolith not just for its simplicity, but also to accentuate its form rather than its finish. The bench also resonates Lord Shiva's trident for its subtle curves and strength.

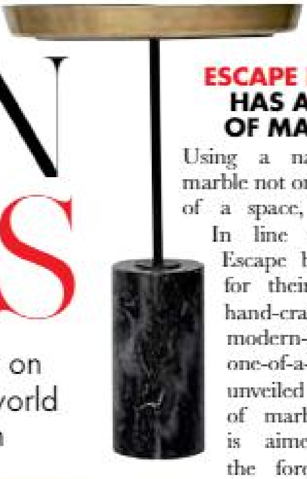
PHOTO: GAJENDRA MANDREKAR

HOT IN HOMES

HELLO! gives you the low-down on what's making headlines in the world of luxury interiors and design

SICIS LAUNCHES YOU GLASS IN INDIA

Renowned worldwide for its spectacular mosaic creations that epitomise superior craftsmanship, design and technology, Sicis has launched You Glass, a decorated glass U-profile, born from the need of architects and designers to bring design and customisation to the fore. By contrast to flat panels of glass and due to its 'U' shape, it has excellent load-bearing capacities and can be installed in very considerable lengths without the need for intermediate support. With wide colour ranges for both outdoor façades and interior furnishings, the range, available at Tessera India, is a breakthrough.



ESCAPE BY CREATOMY HAS A FRESH LINE OF MARBLE TABLES

Using a natural material like marble not only adds to the beauty of a space, but also character. In line with this thinking, Escape by Creatomy, known for their mindfully created, hand-crafted products with modern-day aesthetics and one-of-a-kind designs, has unveiled an exquisite range of marble tables. The edit is aimed at bringing to the fore traditional Indian marbles that are sturdy, beautiful and, yes, exquisite!

THE GREIGE WARP'S HOLIDAY EDIT SPELLS COMFORT

A retail venture of Handtex Industries, which has been in the home linen and furnishings space for over 40 years, The Greige Warp's new collection draws inspiration from the most magical time of the year. Vibrant colours, warm textures and an unmissable snug vibe are just some of the key elements of this pretty holiday collection, which includes an assortment of cushions, rugs, throws, floor cushions, blankets and mats. Ethically handcrafted by skilled artisans, the collection is in sync with the brand's core values of sustainability and kindness.

THE PLATED PROJECT'S NEW RANGE IS ALL ABOUT COLOUR

Leading global lifestyle brand The Plated Project recently launched a limited-edition artistic home décor collection. 'Past Present And Future', the hand-painted series by the social innovation venture, which addresses the problem of hunger with its decorative plates, spotlights India's dying art forms. The series features plates that celebrate *Gond* artwork, DIY canvases, *Madhubani*-art-inspired teatime products, *Kalighat*-inspired décor plates, bright and quirky functional coasters and much more, highlighting the rich cultural heritage of India.

HOUSE OF KNOTS, MANISH CHOKSI WEAVE MAGIC

Design powerhouse House of Knots has unveiled a capsule collection of three unique and bold rugs, in collaboration with luxury interior designer and architect Manish Choksi of Design Core Studio. Titled 'The Asymmetric Project', these are designed with the intent to reimagine shapes in designs that break convention. Silhouettes that are art for the floor are hand-tufted by craftsmen using fine wool. Choksi's strong graphic and conceptual approach in these contemporary rugs fills the void between the intriguingly paradoxical concept of perfection and brilliant design.

THE QUARRY REDEFINES 'SEASON OF LOVE'

For the first time in India — and perhaps the world — The Quarry has launched a collection of perfectly paired marble, granite and onyx called The Quarry Season Of Love. The collection has a variety of options to choose from, like the rare sodalite, which was perfected by mother nature over millions of years, to the exquisite Laas Authentico, a collection of the finest white marble hand-picked from the village of Laas in Italy. The charm and exclusivity of each of the paired two-of-a-kind natural stones, cut and polished, will leave you awestruck and spellbound.

VILLEROY & BOCH UNVEILS NEW AUDUN COLLECTION

Inspired by Villeroy & Boch's roots that date back to 1748, in the village of Audun-le-Tiche, the brand's latest collection, titled Auden, boasts its enchanting rural scenes on porcelain. Inspired by copper-engraved designs, the anthracite-coloured décor recounts rural life and contrasts the depictions of bygone times with a vibrant yellow. This is a relaunch of the original eponymous design from 1830, when copper engraving opened up a whole new range of possibilities in porcelain design.

COMPILED BY: JEENA J BILLIMORIA

THE GOLD STANDARD

OTT, striking & bold — that's what gold décor promises to do to your living spaces. Here are the season's top picks!

1

Metal Sputnick Object WEST ELM
₹4,500; westelm.in

2

Celestial Brass Kebab Servers ELLEMENTRY
₹4,390 (Set of 3);
ellementry.com

3

Marx Stool
GABRIEL SCOTT
Price on request;
sourcesunlimited.co.in

4

Thebes Bar Cart
RENOVATION FACTORY ₹55,000;
renovationfactory.com

5

Athlete XL Gold Sculpture KARE DESIGN
Price on request;
dialoguesbynirmals.com

THIS SIDE UP

6

Parcel Me Coffee Table SANJYT SYNGH
Price on request;
sanjytsyngh.com

7

Atticus Metal Table Lamp POTTERY BARN ₹23,000;
potterybarn.in

8

Jaali Chandelier
SAGE LIVING
₹35,850; sageliving.in

9

Haas Lynda Box & Plates
L'OBJET Price on request;
@emerystudio.in

10

Matt Gold Platter
AMOLICONCEPTS ₹2,350
(Set of 2); amoliconcepts.com

11

Odile Wall Sconce
BAROVIER&TOSO Price on
request; @emerystudio.in

12

Licce Chair
SOLLOS
Price on request;
etreluxeindia.com

13

Maia Handle SICIS
Price on request;
tesseraindia.com

Diamante Console WHITE
DOMUS Price on request;
whitedomus.com

14

COMPILED BY: JEENA J BILLIMORIA & AMBER TIKARI

Lula Mini
WINDFALL
Price on request;
@emerystudio.in

Holiday Ornament
CHRISTOFLE
Price on request;
@emerystudio.in

Green Glass
Bottle Stopper
ELLEMENTRY
₹595 (Set of 2);
ellementry.com

Acero Rosso
Armchair SICIS
Price on request;
tesseraindia.com

’Tis The Season!

Get your home Christmas ready with these gorgeous festive baubles. HELLO!’s curation has the best new drops for you

Red Glass Vase
OCHRE AT HOME
Price on request;
ochreathome.com

Toys Fantasy Plate
VILLEROY & BOCH
₹7,000 to ₹16,000;
luxe.ajio.com

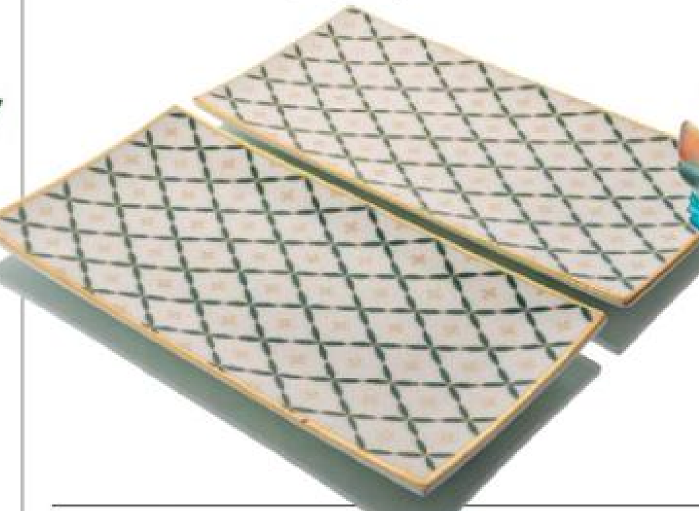
Auréole Colorée
Collection
FÜRSTENBERG
Price on request;
sourcesunlimited.co.in

Calliope 3 Light Multi-Holder
RENOVATION FACTORY
₹5,750;
renovationfactory.com

Rotterdam
BAROVIER&TOSO
Price on request;
@emerystudio.in

Tommy Green Cocktail Glass by SAINT LOUIS
Price on request;
@emerystudio.in

Jyamiti Cookie Plate KAUNTEYA
₹2,500; kaunteya.in



Fleur de Paon Large Gold Vase DAUM
Price on request; @emerystudio.in

Sister Louise BOSA
Price on request;
sourcesunlimited.co.in

Antique Gold Angel Wing
BEYOND DESIGNS HOME
Price on request;
beyonddesigns.in

Antropus CASSINA
Price on request;
etreluxeindia.com

COMPILED BY:
SHRADDHA CHOWDHURY

Haute Flash

HELLO! gives you the low-down on what's making headlines in the fashion and luxury hemisphere

PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

ALESSANDRO MICHELE EXITS GUCCI

In a startling bit of news, Alessandro Michele has stepped down as the Creative Director of Gucci, bringing his seven-year stint at the Italian fashion house to an end. "His passion, his imagination, his ingenuity and his culture put Gucci centre stage, where its place is," said François-Henri Pinault, chair and chief executive of Kering, Gucci's parent company. During his tenure, Michele is credited with fuelling excitement around the luxury label and nearly tripling its revenue, from €3.9 billion in 2015 to €9.7 billion in 2021. His gender-fluid approach to fashion and use of a kaleidoscope of prints, colours and textures attracted a new generation of younger consumers across the globe.

SAMSUNG UNVEILS ITS NEXT-GEN FOLDABLE SMARTPHONES

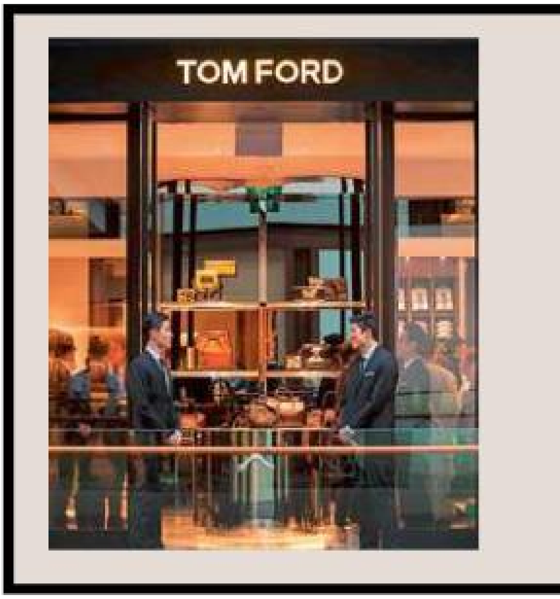
Samsung recently unveiled its next generation of ground-breaking foldable smartphones — the Galaxy Z Flip4 and Galaxy Z Fold4. Both devices feature customisable form factors, tailored experiences and upgraded performance. Now in its fourth generation, the Galaxy Z series continues to break from convention, in a clamshell design, an aluminium frame and a 6.7-in display protected by ultra-thin glass that can be folded into a space of 4.2-in. Once folded, the logo shows up by the centre of the hinge. "The new foldable devices offer unparalleled mobile experiences that meet the needs of our most dynamic users," said Dr TM Roh, President and Head of Mobile eXperience Business at Samsung Electronics.

BICESTER COLLECTION VILLAGES GET A FESTIVE MAKEOVER

The Bicester Collection's 11 distinctive shopping destinations across Europe and China have been transformed into Christmas-themed escapades, featuring avant-garde art installations by award-winning studio Wanda Barcelona. With hundreds of curated boutiques to explore, seasonal in-village entertainment, festive decorations, pop-ups, art, music and warming winter treats, these exhibitions offer the perfect holidays, all within reach of London, Dublin, Paris, Frankfurt, Shanghai, Suzhou, Brussels, Munich, Milan, Barcelona and Madrid. The events bring together the world's most discerning guests, renowned brands and experiences on a journey of discovery.

DIOR TAKES OVER HARRODS IN LONDON

Inspired by the magic of Christmas, the two iconic brands joined forces to create a glamourous wonderland and fashion exhibition featuring ephemeral spaces. The Fabulous World of Dior, which is open to the public at Harrods, London, from now until early January, will usher guests in, with the façade of the Brompton Road storefront adorned with an installation celebrating the fashion house. Dior motifs, including the compass rose, lucky stars and scintillating flowers — as interpreted by artist Pietro Ruffo for the Dior Cruise 2023 collection — will guide visitors along the historic displays towards a fantastic Dior-inspired gingerbread tableau.



VALENTINO OPENS ITS FIRST BOUTIQUE IN INDIA

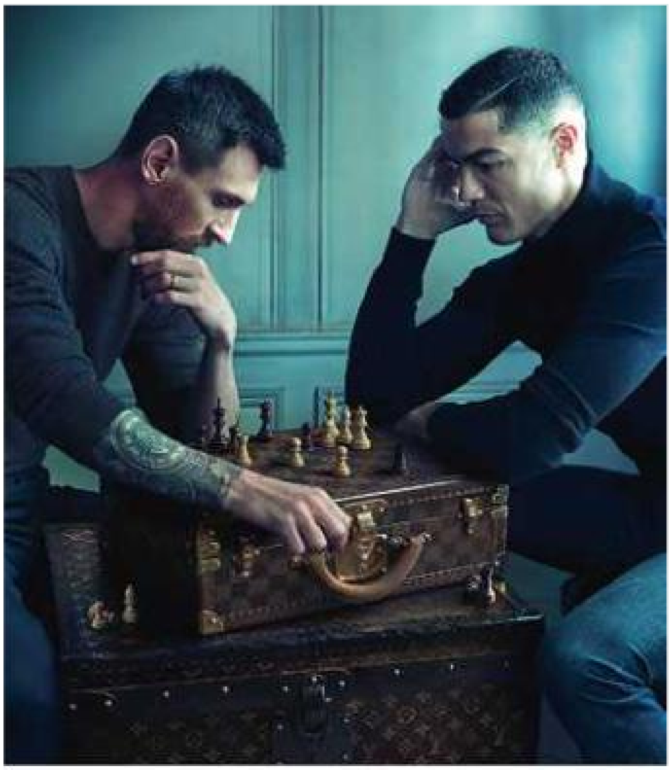
Valentino has arrived in India with its first boutique at DLF Emporio, New Delhi, as part of a newly minted partnership between Reliance Brands and the iconic Italian maison de couture. "The store opening represents a significant step in Valentino's global strategy, and we are honoured to be part of the country's growing retail market, allowing the company and the Valentino community to grow in a solid way," said Jacopo Venturini, CEO, Maison Valentino. The experiential Delhi boutique, which features women and men's ready-to-wear, Valentino Garavani bags, shoes, accessories and the iconic Valentino Pink PP Collection, will be followed by a flagship store in Mumbai. "The brand's infectious romanticism, signature codes and bold use of colour has strong resonance in India," said Darshan Mehta, Managing Director of Reliance Brands.

ESTÉE LAUDER ACQUIRES TOM FORD

In a landmark deal, Estée Lauder acquired its longtime partner Tom Ford, an agreement that brings the American fashion and beauty label's valuation to $2.8 billion. Tom Ford — the celebrated designer, founder and CEO of his eponymous label — will continue to serve as the brand's "creative visionary" through the end of 2023. "As an owned brand, this strategic acquisition will unlock new opportunities and fortify our growth plans for Tom Ford Beauty," said Fabrizio Freda, President and CEO of Estée Lauder. Ford, too, said he "could not be happier with this acquisition as Estée Lauder is the ideal home for the brand".

BRITISH SUPERCAR-MAKER MCLAREN COMES TO INDIA

Mclaren Automotive has made its debut in India, opening its first store in Mumbai. On the occasion, the automaker unveiled the new 765LT Spider at the showroom. The niche super sports car company, which sold around 2,000 cars globally in 2021, considers India a strategic market, as it looks to explore the luxury-spending appetite of the country's high-net-worth individuals. Designed at the iconic McLaren Technology Centre in Surrey, the supercar manufacturer will offer the Everyday McLaren GT and the first-ever high-performance hybrid, the Artura, according to Paul Harris, Managing Director of McLaren, APAC and China.



MESSI & RONALDO FACE OFF IN LOUIS VUITTON CAMPAIGN

A day before the FIFA World Cup commenced, two living legends of football just about broke the internet, thanks to Louis Vuitton. The French maison had Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi square off in a game of chess, not on the field, in an Annie Leibovitz campaign titled "Victory is a State of Mind", which went viral near instantly. A Louis Vuitton Damier attaché trunk served as the chessboard, with the pieces in positions replicating a 2017 game between grandmasters Magnus Carlsen and Hikaru Nakamura. "The photograph is a nod to Louis Vuitton's tradition of crafting trunks for the world's most coveted sporting trophies and also pays tribute to two of the most talented football players today," the luxe label said.

Glenfiddich
GRAN RESERVA

NOW IN INDIA: GLENFIDDICH'S 21-YEAR-OLD SINGLE MALT

Glenfiddich, the world's most awarded single malt whisky, has released Gran Reserva, its 21-year-old expression, in India. The spirit is matured in a combination of American and European oak casks for 21 years and finished for four months in bourbon barrels seasoned with Glenfiddich's own exotic Caribbean rum. The incredibly potent drink is presented in a classic glass bottle, with a paired-back logo embossed in gold to allow the warmth of the liquid to shine through. The bottle is encased in a deep orange presentation box, adorned with intricate gold foiling and a charcoal interior, with references to the warm and mellow depths of flavour. "The launch of the Gran Reserva in India reflects our commitment to offer the best premium malts to Indian consumers," said Sachin Mehta, Country Director-India, William Grant & Sons.

TEXT: EESHA KULKARNI

Neelam Rudy and Priyadarshini Raje Scindia

A HOLE IN ONE

WHAT: Corporate leaders and eminent names from the Delhi-National Capital Region came together for the prestigious Madhavrao Scindia Golf Tournament, at DLF Golf & Country Club, Gurugram. Recognised as a leading charity golf event globally, the annual event raises funds for the Scindia Foundation, which works towards the health and education of the underprivileged.

BUZZ: Around 120 golfers from the capital, including corporate leaders, businesspersons and celebrity golfers, teed off to honour the late philanthropist. Besides Rajmata Madhavi Raje Scindia, who awarded the winners, the event drew such participants as Pankaj and Abhishek Munjal, Mohit Talwar, Navnit Nakra, Vineet Chhabra and Prathmesh Mishra, among many others.

Amitabh Bose of Sentinel Security with Raghav Sarna

HERO CYCLES
TCM
MAX LIFE

Rishi Narain with Poonam Nautiyal and Akmal Aziz of Tourism Malaysia (above); Rajmata Madhavi Raje Scindia enjoys the presentation with friends (right)

Ambika Ranger of DLF (centre) with Jaymin Dalal and Ruchika Mehta of HELLO! (above); Priyadarshini Raje Scindia, Charu Narain and Nauhar Rana (right)

HELLO!'s beautifully curated gift hamper (above); Mohit Talwar and Rajiv Sharma with Pankaj Munjal of Hero Cycles (right)

Dubai-based Yuvraj Narayan receives a special Diageo hamper from Ajay Kakkar of Diageo

Raghav Handa with Navnit Nakra of OnePlus and Rajmata Madhavi Raje Scindia (above); Neelam Rudy gets the 'HELLO!'s Most Stylish Golfer' honour from Ruchika Mehta and Rishi Narain (right)

Tushar Kumar of Mercedes-Benz Silver Arrows with Rohan Khattar

Dr. Usha Kothari gets the 'Vredestein Tyres' Award from Kamaljit Singh of Apollo Tyres

Avin Jain gets the HELLO! hamper from Ruchika Mehta

THE HOUSE OF ANGADI

Supria Radharaman, Pragya Parashar, Ami Patel and Ananya Pratap

Aloma Lobo, Nimrita Lalwani and Ila Naidu (above);
Deepika Reddy & Princess Jayapalashri Anil (below)

CELEBRATIONS IN THE HOUSE!

WHAT: The House of Angadi, along with Delhi-based Khanna Jewellers, curated a two-day immersive experience, 'Shringaar', at their Jayanagar store in Bengaluru. The event showcased the many moods of the modern bride and also exhibited heirloom sarees from their label Advaya, juxtaposed against timeless pieces by Khanna Jewellers.

BUZZ: A high tea with HELLO! kicked off day one, with many of the city's prominent society ladies making their presence felt, including our special guests Ambika Ghorpade, Anusha Raj, Sarayu Hegde, Swati Shamanur and Ila Naidu, among many others. Also present were KH Radharaman, Founder and Principal Designer of the House of Anagadi, and Kartik Khanna, Creative Director Khanna Jewellers. On day two, celebrity stylist Ami Patel conducted a masterclass for brides-to-be.

Ruchika Kumar

Anita Samuel

Ami Patel and KH Radharaman

Supriya Radaraman, Ruchika Mehta and Chitra Pathi

Preeti Mittal, Seema Jaisingh, Nayare Ali, Priya Mascarenhas, Namita Gupta & Reshma Millet

THE HOUSE OF ANGADI
KJ
KHANNA
HELLO!
ANGADI

Kartik Khanna, Ruchika Mehta and Supria Radharaman

Ambika Ghorpade

Shilpa Rao

Guest

Shalini Manglani

Beena Patre

Manjul Gupta

Revathi Raju

Divya Chauhan, Vasuki Punj, Pranay Baidya, Jyotika Jhalani, Paresh Maity and Deepa Sama

Vivek Sama, Arjun Sawhney, Ambika Anand and Diya Sethi

INFINITE ARTISTRY

WHAT: Artist Paresh Maity opened India's largest solo exhibition in Delhi, 'Infinite Light', mapping nearly four decades of his artistic oeuvre. Maity also hosted an exclusive walk-through preview for select guests, which was followed by a curated dinner by Pranay Baidya. **BUZZ:** The exhibition covered the artist's journey and work in varied mediums, such as oil, watercolours, mixed media, ceramics, textile, and installations. Among those at the show were Sonia Jehan, Vivek Narain, Mahesh and Nitya Bharany, Jyotika Jhalani, Arjun Sawhney, Selina Bijli, Divya Chauhan and many others.

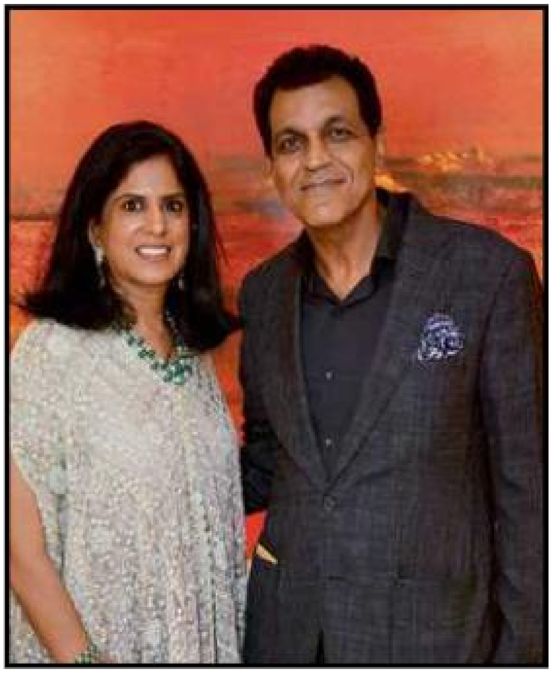
Sonia Jehan, Vivek Narain and Avantikka Kilachand

Paresh Maity and Ruchika Mehta

Lavanya Jangwa

Rid Burman and Jayasri Burman

Sunaina Anand



Mahesh and Nitya Bharany

Malaika Khan (above); Cristiano Pereira, Prashita Chaudhary, Farah Khan-Ali and Diogo Salles (left)

Laila Khan, Prashita Chaudhary, Sussanne Khan, Zarine Khan and Farah Khan-Ali

Krishika Lulla

Sandhya Mohanani

A TOAST TO LUXURY

WHAT: Prashita Chaudhary, founder of a luxury lifestyle label that caters to accessible indulgence and bespoke services, launched her flagship studio in Mumbai.

BUZZ: The store presented a new line of stylish garments, specially curated for the city. Prashita, along with Farah Khan-Ali and Kaykasshan Patel, welcomed friends Sussanne Khan, Malaika Khan, Zeba Kohli, Sandhya Mohanani, Deanne Panday, Krishika Lulla and many more over a wine and cheese soirée, with a melange of fashion and jewellery.

Deanne Panday

Zeba Kohli

Aditya Goel and Mohak Mehta, with hosts Hina Oomer-Ahmed and Amrita ShahSingh Kilachand (centre)

ART FOR A CAUSE

WHAT: Hina Oomer-Ahmed and Amrita ShahSingh Kilachand put together an art and design show, 'Post the Pause', at a luxury hotel in Mumbai, to support studios and galleries in their endeavour to showcase their artists' works to a wider, more focused audience.

BUZZ: On display were works by Julius Das, Surita Tandon and Gulab Kapadiya, besides curated pieces by Ravi Vazirani, Ashiesh Shah, The Pure Concept Home, Sravanya Pittie's SDS Tableware, and more. The two-day affair drew eminent names from across the art, fashion, lifestyle and social circles of Mumbai, including Vinti Lodha, Anaita Shroff Adajania, Nayntara Thacker, Pooja Advani, Richa Begani, Saloni Doshi, Mallika Parekh and Pallavi Swadi, among many others.

Abha Shah, Ragini Pratap, Mona Vahanvati and Nayntara Thacker

Ravi Vazirani and Sonia Gehlot

Anaita Shroff Adajania

Deepti Bellad and Kirti Makhijani

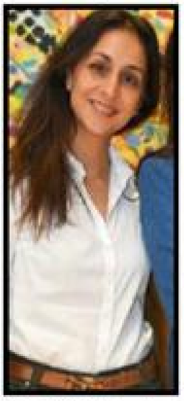
Shivani Patodia and Pooja Advani

Claire Parekh

Richa Begani

Vinti Lodha

Natasha Mehta



Bonita Bulchandani

Mallika Parekh

Luck by Numbers

HELLO! reveals your monthly fortune with celebrity numerologist **Sanjay B Jumaani**.

How to calculate your number
Begin with your date of birth. Reduce the date to a single digit, if you're born on a double-digit date, by adding the digits involved. For example: If you're born on the 12th of a month, your number is **1 + 2 = 3**.

1

November was the month to lay low, but now is the time to rise and shine. You're likely to not only financially recover but also gain some profits. It's the right time to take calculated gambles, albeit at your own risk. Avoid overspending on unnecessary desires. Remember, a little leak can sink a great ship. Socially, too, this appears to be an eventful month. It's the right time to make important life decisions. Moreover, 2023, your lucky year, is just a stone's throw away.

Ratan Tata

2

Aim for your ruler, the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars. This should be your mantra for December. The No.3-governed Sagittarius period is fast paced, so it's your duty to maintain the chase. Your imaginative nature will fuel your creativity in these weeks, so try to capitalise on your talents. Hold all important decisions for a better period in 2023, your lucky year.

Twinkle Khanna

3

This month is Sagittarius-ruled, which is represented by your own No. 3. Remember, all eyes are on you, so make sure you're worth the show. You're likely to be relatively busier this month, which is a good thing. But remember to spend time with your family. Financially, it's a good time to save and reassess your wealth. Don't shy away from spending on luxuries, but be wise. On the health front, guard against breathing issues and over indulging.

Rajinikanth

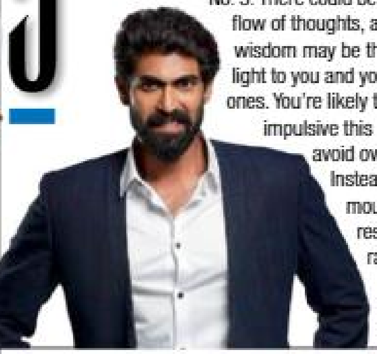
4

Your heightened energy can raise your curiosity to learn more and make you implement those learnings in your work. Hence, December will be a month of research and development, as well as learnings and earnings. Quick-money schemes are not viable options for you, so don't waste your hard-earned wealth on short-term or volatile mediums. Health wise, guard against breathlessness and issues pertaining to the lower body.

Taylor Swift

5

No. 5, Mercury (Buddh, which stands for knowledge) and No. 3, Jupiter (Guru, which stands for knowledge) are a fair match as they're interconnected. And this Sagittarius-governed December happens to be ruled by No. 3. There could be a pristine flow of thoughts, and your wisdom may be the guiding light to you and your dear ones. You're likely to be less impulsive this month, but avoid overspending. Instead, try mounting your reserves for a rainy day.



Rana Daggubati

6

December seems like a good culmination to your year, 2022 (6), as your lucky No.3 (Sagittarius) month is underway. Your saved-up wealth will be put to good use now, as No. 3 is known to impart wealth management qualities. Your extroverted nature could help you make new friends. It's a good time to make important decisions pertaining to marriage, career, health, property, etc.

Anil Kapoor

7

Your eccentricity makes you creative and intuitive. No. 7s generally function strongly on the mental plane. December will fuel your desire to learn, so try venturing into new fields if you wish to. You are just a step (month) away from your lucky year, 2023 (No.7). Spouses and the unemployed should try to start a new innings. Maybe if you give importance to your hobby, you could find a new path and enjoy work, too. Those already employed will find themselves charged with renewed vigour.

Justin Trudeau

8

The backseat has its own advantages, like comfortably enjoying the scenery rather than owning the wheel. In a nutshell, playing second fiddle won't do you any harm. It's also a good time to make important life decisions. Your finances could march upwards, and long-term investments could fructify, too. However, stay away from professional partnerships and quick-money schemes like trading or gambling. Those who are introvertish may kindle a bond or two.

John Abraham

9

December is here to add to your streak of gains, if any. In any way, this month won't disappoint. Your incomplete tasks could see the light of the day. Finances could take a long jump, too. Allow your savings to stack up; don't blow off your hard-earned money carelessly. Try to focus your energies on family matters. Those on the lookout for marriage, a new job, or a change in residence could get lucky on the go. Try to be more tactful and patient as it's not always easy for others to understand your nature.

Salman Khan

DISCLAIMER: WHILE THESE PROPERTIES ARE GENERIC, ALL THE ABOVE TRAITS MAY NOT NECESSARILY HOLD TRUE FOR YOU. YOUR ZODIACAL QUALITIES MAY SUPERSEDE SOME OF YOUR PRIMARY NUMBER'S ATTRIBUTES, TOO.

Sasha Grewal

Bold and experimental in her style choices, her fashion game is always on point. The co-founder of Outhouse jewellery shares her favourites in luxury and essential pointers just in time for year-end bashes

Luxury to me is: Exclusive. It expands to experiencing different cultures and cities through travel. Lately, I've been largely inclined towards wellness travel.

Holidays this year: My best holiday destination this year was South Italy for the summer. I'm headed to Crans-Montana in Switzerland for Christmastime.

A recent indulgence: I splurged on a pair of limited-edition Offwhite athleisure heels.

A memorable culinary experience: A luxury culinary experience that never fails to impress me is the regional wine and food of Vico Equense and Palermo in Italy.

Bucket list addition: Japan was a recent addition to my bucket list for the varied culinary and spiritual textures the country has to offer.

Favourite labels: My all-time favourite brands are Balenciaga and Khaite.

Favourite luxurista: Without a doubt, it's Kelly Wearstler .

Three tips to ace the luxe party look: 1. You should up your game with the perfect accessories, even if you opt for a simple outfit and can't ditch your basics. A few accessories or one statement piece add the perfect glam touch to any look; 2. Always do your hair, and if undone, tie it up in a knot or a pony for a clean and slick look. From top knots to high ponytails, the right hairdo is the best way to complement any look; 3. Always step out 'well heeled'. Keep your footwear in check, and make sure they match your fit. If you opt for neutrals, let your footwear do the talking, with colour pops, metallic heels, boots or tie-ups, and if you're going over the top with your outfit, let your footwear be the cherry on the cake. Keep it monotone, colour block, or just play safe with blacks, whites and nudes.

Three tips to buy bespoke luxury pieces: 1. A brand with a story and intricacy of craftsmanship; 2. Buying from regional designers and craft allows you to branch out and understand the depth of the culture and regional craft better; 3. Buying a one-of-a-kind piece over too many pieces. It's always better to collect items that are rare. They are invaluable, and it always accounts for more than hoarding regular ones.

Three must-haves in a woman's closet: 1. Slick black heels never fail you and can transform any look and take it from drab to fab; 2. A statement choker can pull the whole look together. 3. A bag is a girl's best friend, and when it's a classic maxi tote, you can fit all your essentials in it and still look well put together.

Statement pieces that take your outfit from AM to PM: Statement rings, signature pendants and a moon-shaped handbag. A simple outfit can be transformed into a full-blown glam fit when accessorised the right way. Over-the-top neckpieces, chunky rings and an iconic bag add the finishing touch!

My style icons: Kelly Wearstler and Rosie Huntington-Whiteley. They have a very bold sense of style. But what I love most about them is that they highlight a sense of their being in what they wear.

My personal style: Eclectic, bold, experimental and audacious. I like to make a statement when I head out, and I don't mind stepping out of my comfort zone a few odd times.

The most stylish or luxurious item in your wardrobe: The Outhouse Pico Minaudière Couture Bag, a custom-made Shivan & Narresh Dita Von Tease Edition black saree, and a custom-made short Pink Panther dress by Gaurav Gupta.

Best winter buys: A classic Moncler jacket, moon boots for the mountains and Sergio Rossi ankle boots.

INTERVIEW: NAYARE ALI
CO-ORDINATED BY: SONAM POLADIA

OBEETEE
CARPETS

OBEETEE
CARPETS
— IN ASSOCIATION WITH — VALAYA HOME

PRESENTS

KAPURTHALA

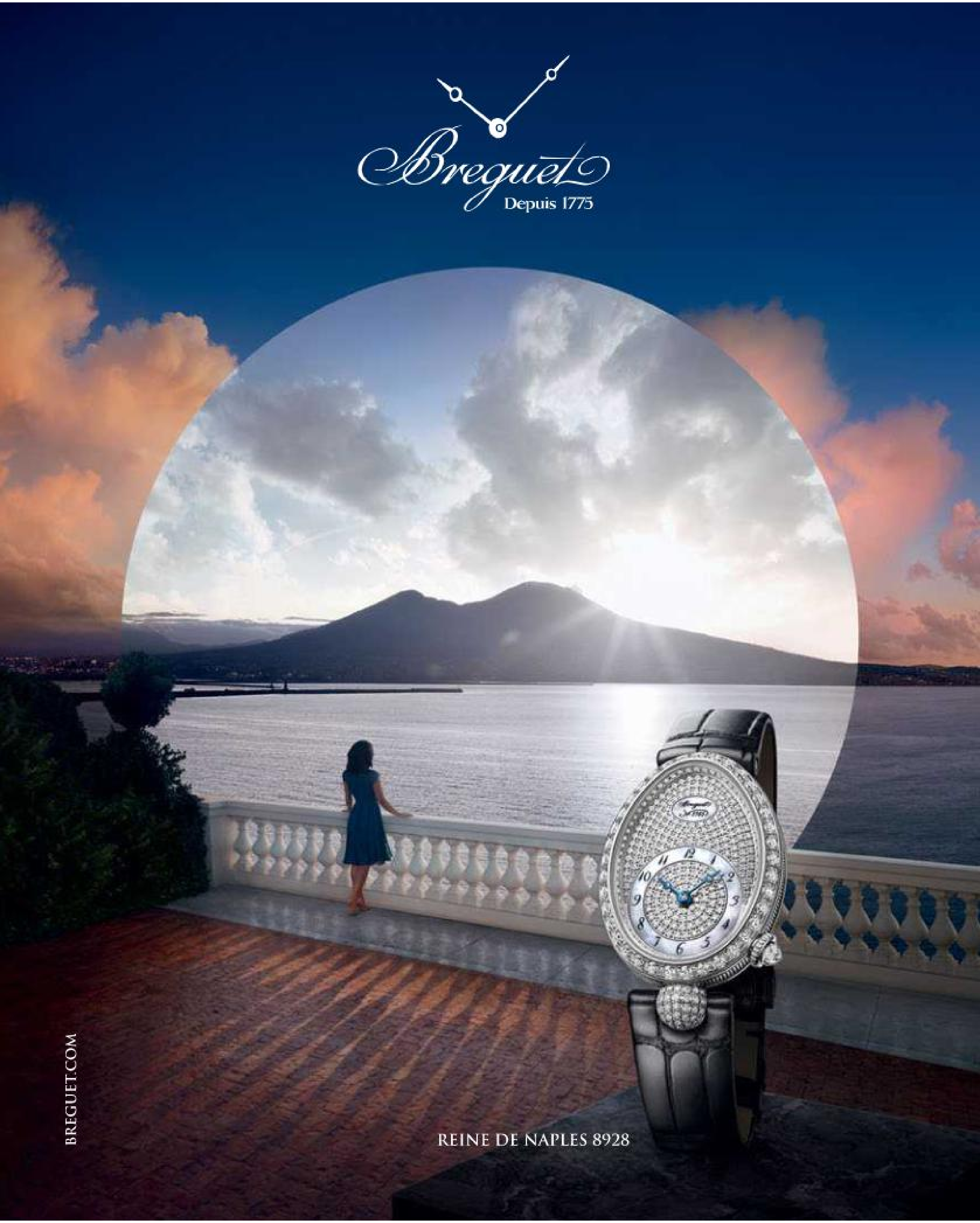
FROM KASHMIR TO MARSEILLE

A collection of beautiful carpets designed by the couture monarch JJ Valaya

Hyderabad : Obeetee Carpets, 1263, Rd Number 36, Jubilee Hills
Mumbai : Obeetee Carpets, Mahalaxmi West
New Delhi : Obeetee Carpets, Opposite Metro Pillar No: 57, MG Road, Sultanpur

CALL - +91 880 213 1599 |
+91 962 592 2138 | +91 99002 05381

Obeetee.in | pepperfry AJIO amazon HOME ARTISAN MAMA


Breguet
Depuis 1775
REINE DE NAPLES 8928
BREGUET.COM